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THE TIMES



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Tomorrow

Class warfare
An end-of-term report on the teachers' dispute

Red riddle
Digby Anderson asks: When is a communist not a communist?

Striking a chord
Miles Kingston improvises on the DNA of jazz

Batting clever
John Woodcock on today's play in the third Test

Portfolio

Saturdays Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was won by Mr Ian Williamson, of Ilythe, Hampshire. Portfolio list, page 12, rules and how to play information service, back page. The weekly prize next Saturday will be £40,000 double the usual amount because there was no winner at the weekend.

Curbs may be eased on planning

A White Paper is expected this week to recommend major changes in planning controls and modifications to other regulations in an attempt to create jobs by encouraging small businesses. One likely proposal is the simplification of pay as you earn systems. Page 13

Bank warning on loan rate

The Bank of England may announce its own temporary minimum lending rate of 12 per cent unless the clearing banks cut their rates by half a percentage point early this week. Page 13

Exams study

Pupils in grammar and secondary modern schools get more O levels than those in comprehensives, according to a study by the National Council for Educational Standards. Page 3

Afghans defect

Afghanistan has demanded the return of two Soviet-built helicopter gunships and their crews from Pakistan. The pilots said they defected while on a bombing mission against guerrillas. Page 5

EEC decisions

The European commissioners are tackling two issues with enormous political implications - agriculture and steel. European notebook, page 4; A harvest of sanity, page 8

Shuttle hope

Nasa officials hope the space shuttle Challenger can be ready for launch in two weeks after a fault stopped the attempt on Friday. Page 5

RUC praised

Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, praised the Royal Ulster Constabulary for the way they handled a weekend of violence in Portadown. Page 2

Cabinet saved

The Belgian coalition Government survived a divisive debate in Parliament about the football riot at the Heysel stadium. Page 4

Tamil fears

Adjournment of the Tamil peace talks for a month has brought fears that Sri Lanka's fragile ceasefire may not last. Page 4

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Lord Strathclyde. Mr Denis Cowley

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More pressure on Kinnock after NUM unity call

By Philip Webster and David Felton

Mr Neil Kinnock's difficulties over the split in the National Union of Mineworkers grew yesterday when his call on the Nottinghamshire rebels to stay in the union provoked attacks on him from the breakaway faction and the Government, and led to concern among his MPs with seats in the area.

With ministers eager to exploit Mr Kinnock's appearance with Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president, at the Durham miners' gala on Saturday and Mr Kinnock's advice to the miners to remain united, the danger to Labour's electoral prospects posed by the present impasse is being increasingly felt by Labour and union leaders, who nevertheless accept that Mr Kinnock is played in an impossible position.

Mr Roy Lynk, general secretary of the breakaway union, said that the Labour leader's appeal at Durham for the rebels to stay in the NUM showed that he was afraid to stand up against vociferous extremists.

"If his job means anything to him it would remind him that thousands of moderate people will not accept that type of leadership and I would also advise him that Nottinghamshire miners represent the truer body of the Labour movement and not the extremists," he said.

The Nottinghamshire rebels are calling for official recognition from Mr Kinnock, the Labour Party and the TUC. Yesterday Mr Don Concannon, Labour MP for Mansfield and a

Reagan's progress delights doctors

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan was said to be making "spectacular" recovery yesterday, a day after major surgery to remove a two-inch polyp and almost two feet of his lower intestine. The results will be known today as the analysis to determine whether the growth was cancerous.

His first words to his staff at Bethesda Naval Hospital yesterday morning were: "I'm amazed at how good I feel". He asked for newspapers, immediately added one of his famous one-liners: "I've got 'em only for the comfort of my patients".

The President was back in his suite after spending the night in the recovery room. Captain Dale Ollmer, the naval surgeon who headed the team of seven doctors, remained with him overnight. He said: "The President is on a post-operative course that surpasses by 99.99 per cent all patients who undergo this type of surgery".

This was all the more remarkable in view of the President's age. Captain Ollmer said: "So far it is a spectacular post-operative course. Vitals are rock stable. That includes temperature, pulse and blood pressure. And lab studies are totally as expected." America was somewhat shaken by the news of the polyp, discovered after routine minor surgery on Friday, measured two inches in diameter. It was said to have grown over a period of up to four years, and Dr Steven Rosenberg, a cancer specialist from the National Institutes of Health, said the chances of a polyp that size being cancerous were over 50 per cent.

The operation, however, including the removal of a large segment of the colon either side of the polyp, was sufficiently radical to ensure that even if the growth was cancerous, no further surgery would be needed. Dr Rosenberg said there were no signs of the tumour having spread.

Mr Reagan went into hospital on Friday originally for the removal of a small polyp under local anaesthetic. On the discovery of the larger growth he opted to have the second operation immediately and discussed with his White House staff the arrangements for a

temporary transfer of power to Mr George Bush, the Vice President.

He signed a letter on Saturday morning which effectively made Mr Bush acting President to be flying back here from Maine. But Mr Reagan reclaimed his authority in the evening after waking up from the anaesthetic.

The entire surgical team visited Mr Reagan yesterday morning and Mrs Reagan went to see him after that. Mr Donald Reagan, the Chief of Staff ten minutes with the President. They discussed national security and congressional developments. The White House has set up communications and national security offices in the hospital, which is about 10 miles north of Washington.



Mr Bush: mid-flight power transfer.

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said the President emphasized his wish to see action by Congress on the deadlocked federal budget "this week". He is expected to continue lobbying congressional leaders by telephone from the hospital, where he is likely to stay for about a week.

Mr Reagan cannot yet eat normally and is being nourished by intravenous fluids. In a few days he will go on to a liquid diet, then on to bland and then solid foods.

Last month President Reagan's older brother, Neil, who is 76, underwent the same type of intestinal surgery for cancer of the colon. He was back at his home in California in good health five days later.

Bush the first stand-in President

In deciding to go ahead with the operation, President Reagan also had a delicate and important constitutional decision to make: should he be the first President to invoke the 25th Amendment and transfer his powers temporarily to the Vice-President? (Michael Binyon writes.)

On Friday Evening, the White House suggested he would not do so. Mr George Bush was said to have had no plans to return from his holiday home in Maine. By Saturday morning, however, the line had changed. It was announced Mr Bush was coming back here, though only for personal reasons and not because of the President's medical condition. Then it was said arrangements had indeed been made to

transfer presidential authority before the operation. And now it transpires that Mr Bush, for eight hours on Saturday, was the first American ever to become in effect "acting President" and Commander-in-Chief.

Why did the Reagan Administration, in the White House's own words, "opt out" through the constitutional minefield? In his five-paragraph letter to the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, signed at about 10.30 on Saturday, Mr Reagan referred to the 25th amendment. But he said he did not think this provision, which was not ratified in 1967 and has never before been invoked, applied to "such brief and temporary periods of incapacity as surgery".

Two things weighed on Mr Reagan's mind. The first was the need to continue to discharge his duties as the country's leader. There had to be someone able to take decisions with the constitutional authority of the President at all times.

Equally important, however, was the President's wish not to alarm the country, already shaken by the possibility of cancer. He insisted on other visible symbols of normal routine: meeting Mr Donald Reagan, the White House chief of staff, to direct policy; receiving in hospital on Saturday morning his usual briefing from Mr Robert McFarlane, his National Security Adviser.

Mr Reagan was also determined to avoid setting a precedent that could bind his successors. However, in a way, Mr Reagan had already set a precedent for himself. After the assassination attempt in 1981, there was no time in the emergency for a formal invocation of the amendment.

Mr Bush was then travelling, and Mr Alexander Haig, then Secretary of State, caused an uproar by going before television cameras and declaring: "I am in control here, in the White House, pending return of the Vice-President" - a statement widely regarded as hysterical.

The 25th Amendment to the US constitution was the direct result of the scare caused by the assassination of President Kennedy. For about 90 minutes before Vice-President Johnson was sworn in as president, it was unclear when he would have the authority to take over.

The breakaway Nottinghamshire area is facing problems of its own, with potential allies in other moderate areas likely this week to hold back from taking any early action to join the rebel area.

Leaders of the south Derbyshire and Leicestershire coalfields are instead expected to await the outcome of the Nottinghamshire ballot, expected shortly. That in turn causes problems for Mr Lynk, because, if Nottinghamshire was seeking a merger with other areas, a simple majority would have been sufficient, but the rule change needed in order to leave the national union will now require a two thirds majority.

Supporters of the break from the NUM are still confident of winning the ballot, but there were rumblings of discontent at some of the branch meetings held in the area yesterday from people who objected to attempts by local officials to present the gatherings as meetings of the new breakaway union.

Mr Kinnock took the opportunity in his Durham speech again to deliver a rebuke to Mr Scargill, whom he has blamed for losing Labour votes in the Brecon by-election. He called for discipline in the movement, so that "every word, every action, every attitude, every statement, everything we do to educate, agitate and organize is geared completely to victory."

Both the Government and the airline's board are anxious to float the company on the Stock Exchange as soon as possible to offset public spending overruns and to take advantage of its current high level of profitability.

The recent switch in policy from seeking one simultaneous settlement with all parties to a step-by-step approach paid off last week when the out-of-court agreement with the Laker Airways liquidator was rapidly followed by a £9 million outline deal with Mr Robert Beckman, the liquidator's lawyer.

The £5 million offer to Sir Freddie Laker need not be accepted until August 20 and appears to be negotiable.

But British Airways is insisting as a condition of the offer that Sir Freddie should forego a role in any other legal action against BA or the other airlines involved in the liquidator's action over the Laker affair. This would include the Lorbho action brought over the failure of its joint ventures with Sir



Mr Geldof arriving at a London restaurant yesterday for the concert, with Miss Paula Yates

Lawsuit deals speed British Airways sale

By Graham Searjeant and Michael Horsnell

British Airways could still be privatized during the present financial year provided that the main lawsuits against it are resolved by the end of October.

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SDP tax scheme would lift burden on savers

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Social Democratic Party yesterday proposed a radical restructuring of the income tax system under which all savings and investments would be free from tax but their sale or realization would be taxable as income.

Under a new "exemption of savings tax" small savers who invest in building societies, shares and their own businesses, would be treated in the same way as people who invest in pensions or the business expansion scheme who now get preferential treatment.

Spending from the sale of capital will be taxed as part of income, meaning that owners will no longer be treated more favourably than earners.

The SDP's long-term new

Geldof concert raises £40m for famine aid

By Colin Hughes

Live Aid, the global rock show seen live by an estimated 1,500 million people in 160 countries is expected to raise nearly £40 million for famine relief, exceeding the organizers' expectations by about four times.

The extraordinarily successful blend of show-biz glamour and technology with popular idealism has already brought an international campaign to win the Nobel peace prize for Mr Bob Geldof, Dublin-born lead singer of the Boomtown Rats, who inspired the event.

Mr Philip Rasted, Live Aid's London accountant, said yesterday it will take days to calculate the charity's astonishing receipts in worldwide donations, sale of satellite television rights, and ticket sales for the two concerts at Wembley stadium in London, and the John F Kennedy stadium in Philadelphia.

He said, however, that the first supplies and funds could be reaching the African famine regions within six weeks. He and Mr Kevin Jenden, Band Aid's project director, will visit the Sudan later this month to meet relief and development charity officials on the ground and decide how to apportion cash.

The budget will be decided according to the "demands of the relief agencies", he said, adding: "The quicker you get the job done, the fewer people die. The money will go to the Sudan, Ethiopia and the sub-Sahara."

Mr Jenden said he hoped Band Aid could link up other main charities such as Oxfam and Save the Children Fund in a consortium to avoid duplicating resources and failing to reach untouched areas.

The first task has already been agreed. It is to set up a trucking operation backed with a comprehensive spare parts service for the whole of the Sudan, in co-operation with the Save the Children Fund.

The next priorities are irrigation technology and farming implements and seed, which are needed urgently to take advantage of recent rainfall

which is the best the area has enjoyed for a decade.

Mr Geldof said yesterday that the scale of donations meant Live Aid would be able to pour funds into long-term operations, and not merely crisis relief.

"Our concerts were trying to keep the starting alive. Now let us give them a life," he said.

The only criticism of the event, which broke the largest live television audience record over 16 hours with only a

couple of blackout hitches, was the difficulty some would-be donors faced in getting through on limited telephone lines.

On Saturday Mr Geldof showed signs of anxiety that donations had reached only £250,000 by 9pm, which was blamed largely on jammed switchboards.

In Britain the organizers decided yesterday to extend the operation of three London switchboards which could handle 100 calls at a time until midnight last night, and received credit card donations and promises totalling nearly £4 million.

More moneys expected to come in over the next few days from people paying Transcash at post offices, or into the five banks and four building societies which are acting as fund agents.

Ticket receipts for the 72,000 crowd in London made £2 million and £5.5 million for the 90,000 crowd in Philadelphia. Telephone contributions were higher in the United States, where the telephone company AT and T made 1.126

Top Communists expelled

Twelve leading Communists, including Mr Ken Gill, due to be next year's TUC chairman, were expelled from the party yesterday (*Report Morris writes*).

The expulsions are the latest episode in a long-running power struggle between the party's Eurocommunist executive, and the pro-Soviet hard left, which is grouped round the daily newspaper, the Morning Star.

Others expelled with Mr Gill, who is general secretary of the draughtsmen's union, TASS, were Ms Terry Marsland, deputy general secretary of the Tobacco Workers Union, Mr Ken Brett, assistant general secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Mr Arthur Utting, former president of the Building Workers' Union, and Mr Derek Robinson, the former BL convenor at Longbridge.

The others were Mr Les Burt, Ms Ann Field, Ms Mary Rosser, Mr Tom Sibley, Mr George Wake, Ms Jenny Williams, and Mr Jo Berry.

The executive found all 12 guilty of "opposing congress decisions", "destroying the links between the party and the Morning Star" and "setting other comrades an example of arrogant disregard for party democracy".

Which of these languages would you like to speak?

Tick the one you want to speak in 3 months' time

<input type="checkbox"/> Afrikaans	<input type="checkbox"/> French	<input type="checkbox"/> Malay
<input type="checkbox"/> American	<input type="checkbox"/> (Intermediate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian
<input type="checkbox"/> English	<input type="checkbox"/> German	<input type="checkbox"/> Polish
<input type="checkbox"/> Arabic	<input type="checkbox"/> German	<input type="checkbox"/> Portuguese
<input type="checkbox"/> (Modern)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Intermediate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Russian
<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Greek	<input type="checkbox"/> Serbo-Croat
<input type="checkbox"/> (Mandarin)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Modern)	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<input type="checkbox"/> Danish	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrew	<input type="checkbox"/> (Castilian)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dutch	<input type="checkbox"/> (Modern)	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish (Latin American)
<input type="checkbox"/> English	<input type="checkbox"/> Hindi	<input type="checkbox"/> Swedish
<input type="checkbox"/> (Intermediate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic	<input type="checkbox"/> Thai
<input type="checkbox"/> (Advanced)	<input type="checkbox"/> Indonesian	<input type="checkbox"/> Welsh
<input type="checkbox"/> Finnish	<input type="checkbox"/> Irish	
<input type="checkbox"/> French	<input type="checkbox"/> Italian	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Korean	

Linguaphone
The first word in languages

FREE DEMONSTRATION PACK FORM

Please send me my FREE DEMONSTRATION PACK on record (I am interested in learning French) German Spanish

Other language: _____

I would like information on the new French video programme

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTCODE: _____

NO STAMP REQUIRED - SEND NO MONEY

Union moves to avoid split over disagreement on employment law ballots

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Attempts will be made this week by senior trade union officials to head off a damaging split in the labour movement that is threatened by disagreements over whether the unions should accept the Government's employment legislation.

Deliberations by union leaders at two important Trades Union Congress committee meetings on Wednesday will be sharpened by a motion tabled in the annual congress in September which calls for no disciplinary action to be taken against unions which accept government funds for secret ballots, or which co-operate in ballots on closed shop agreements.

The meetings of the employment policy and finance and general purposes committee are due to draw up a statement to put on the September congress in Blackpool on the Union's future attitude to the law.

They are also expected to decide whether to go ahead with disciplinary measures against the second largest union for the most visible serious breach so far of TUC policy on the legislation.

There have been calls for the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers to be expelled from the TUC after its acceptance of more than £1 million of government money to cover, respectively, the secret postal ballots it uses to elect full-time officials.

The engineering union may also come in for criticism for apparently advising all its district committees to hold secret ballots before considering any form of industrial action, in line with the provisions of last year's Trade Union Act.

The advice is contained in a circular sent out by the engineering union's head office at the end of last month in response to queries from local branch officials after the union changed its rules to give the national leadership sole authority to declare industrial action official.

Mr Gavin Laird, the union's general secretary, said last night that the circular sought only to explain the law and did not encourage or instruct local leadership to follow the terms of the 1984 act. He said that since the recent rule changes the union had authorized industrial action on several occasions without holding ballots.

The motion to the TUC congress on the law comes from the right-wing-led Engineers' and Managers' Association which argues that a refusal to recognize a changing mood among some unions could lead to a split in the union movement.

It calls for no action to be taken by unions holding ballots under the Employment Act 1982 on the closed shop or accepting government money for ballots, and adds that no future confusion on how to operate within the policy.

at the time of congress should be immediately dropped.

The Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union also faces disciplinary action after its request to the Government for money to finance its secret ballot, although it may be some months before that union receives more than £1 million for which it has asked.

Leaders of neither union are taking the expulsion threats seriously although senior TUC figures believe that Wednesday's meeting of the finance and general purposes committee, the "inner cabinet", will start the process.

The least that the committee could do would be to ask the ruling general council to authorize an investigation of the AUEW's actions, although some leaders favour a stronger approach with a declaration that there was a prima facie case that it was in breach of TUC policy and should therefore answer charges brought under disciplinary rule 13.

There will be pressure for some mention in the statement to the Blackpool congress of the desirability of holding ballots before strikes.

Some union leaders will also want to see a clear definition of the TUC policy, drawn up at the special Wembley conference in 1982, so that there can be no future confusion on how to operate within the policy.

Labour plan on councils is opposed

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Some Labour local authority leaders want to drop the party's policy of non-compliance with government plans to abolish seven large councils.

The first overt supporter of such a bold step is Mr Ken Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, who is to put the proposal to Labour members of the council today and later to the executive of the London Labour party.

He considers that further refusal to discuss abolition with the Government will be futile once the measures complete their passage through Parliament this week.

He also fears that if Labour boycotted the new arrangement to be set up after abolition, the party might be blamed should it fail.

He wants Labour borough and district councillors to join the boards of councils being established to take over some of the GLC's work, but to boycott the quangos also being set up to do other tasks.

The Association of London Authorities said yesterday: "There will have to be some discussion of appraisal of the position of non-compliance."

The association represents Labour London boroughs which it is intended, will take on some GLC work after abolition.

Dons plan to save GLC study unit

By Colin Hughes

A group of London University academics is proposing to set up a new metropolitan study centre to take over research from the Greater London Council, when it is abolished next year.

Although the proposal is motivated by the belief that, of all the council's functions, its research and intelligence role is the best executed, the academics' plan has brought condemnation from council unions and the council leader, Mr Ken Livingstone.

Mr Livingstone called the idea opportunist, full of flaws and hopelessly inadequate. The academics' working party, however, says that several London boroughs, including two which are Labour-controlled, have responded enthusiastically.

The council employs 200 staff and spends between £6 million and £8 million a year compiling facts and statistics on every aspect of London life, including population, employment, shopping, leisure, transport and housing.

Much of it is provided to boroughs, water and health authorities, and private planning and consultancy companies.

Mr Michael Collins, a town planner at University College and one of the working party, said that none of his colleagues wanted to undermine the council's position, but merely to ensure that its valuable records and research quality was maintained.

"All this yahoos coming from Ken and the union does not really do us justice."

The group has sent out 400 consultation prospectuses to bodies which might use the centre, suggesting a core staff of 35.

Mr Collins said talks had started with government officials on seeking starter funds, but in the long term user bodies would pay by contracting in to the centre with a management board made up partly from the university, and partly outside.

"Since abolition is now clearly going ahead, it seems better to have a concerned and qualified group to take it over centrally, rather than let the GLC's work vanish because no one else wants to take on the responsibility," Mr Collins said.

Leading academic names on the panel include Professor David Rhind, Dr John Shepherd, Professor Derek Diamond, Mr Howard Glensier and Professor George Jones from the London School of Economics, and Professor Richard Blundell from University College. Others in the team are from Birkbeck and Queen Mary's colleges.

Professor Diamond said: "Our aim is for the public interest. We are motivated neither by money, nor by politics."

Labour chooses Asian to contest Boyson's seat

By Phillip Webster, Political Reporter

An Asian candidate was chosen yesterday by a London Labour party to fight a seat which has been targeted as a viable marginal at the next general election. Mr Praful Patel, aged 46, was comfortably elected to contest Brent North, which is held by Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister of State for Northern Ireland.

Mr Patel, born in Uganda and an investment adviser and consultant working mainly in Third World countries, defeated Mr Tom Bryson, a Wembley councillor, and Miss Debbie Sander, an education officer at the Commonwealth Institute.

The selection of another Asian candidate without the assistance of a black section will please the Labour leadership, which is arguing in advance of

Chess prize for London side in six-hour final

By Raymond Keene

Streatham and Brixton, the spirited London side, has defeated Cambridge University 4-2 in the final of the Legal and General British Chess Club Championships taking the £1,000 prize for the first time at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, London, at the weekend.

Play lasted six hours, and the turning point came when Jonathan Meitel, a grandmaster, blundered in an advantageous position.

The King's Head, Bayswater and Oxford University drew all six games in the play off for third and fourth places after six hours of the competition.

The final was a dramatic event in which the London side, captained by Raymond Keene, defeated Cambridge University 4-2. The match was played over six days, with the final day being the most dramatic.

The royal dockyards: Private management scheme may be modified

Mr Heseltine is believed to be considering ways of modifying his ideas for introducing private management to the royal dockyards to counter critics of the scheme.

The dockyards, at Devonport near Plymouth, and Rosyth on the Firth of Forth, have nearly 20,000 employees and have a turnover of about £400 million a year from carrying out refits and repairs of Royal Navy vessels, including the Polaris submarines.

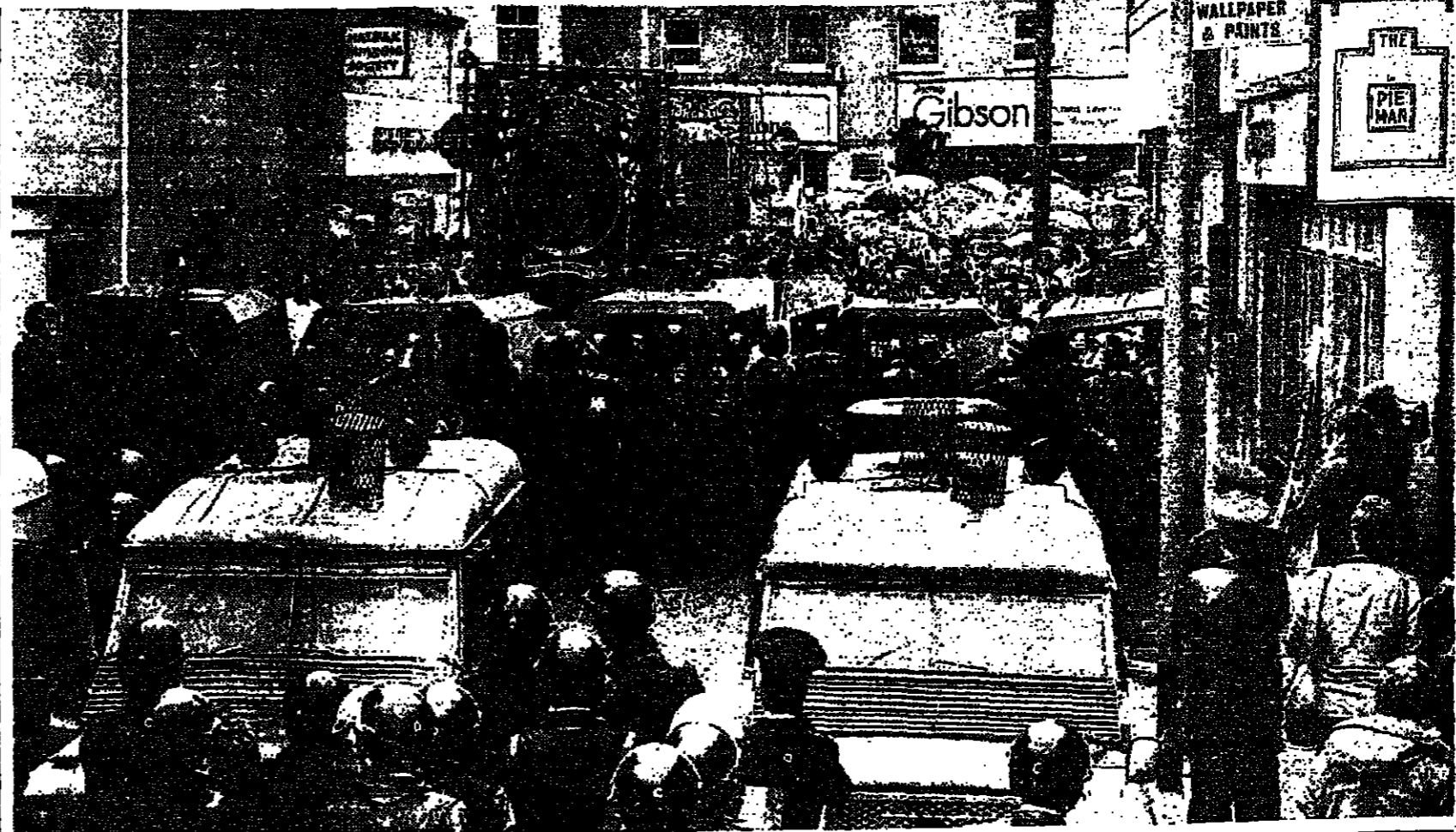
In April Mr Heseltine published a number of possible options for restructuring the dockyards, and stated categorically that "the Government is not prepared to contemplate the dockyards continuing under their present structure and system of management." He is due to announce his final decision on how to reorganize the yards within the next two weeks.

The Government's plans for reorganizing the royal dockyards are coming under criticism and Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, may be obliged to modify them. Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent, looks at the position.

His preferred method would be for the Ministry of Defence to lease the yards for a fixed period to private companies which would manage them. This would mean the employees would cease to be Civil Servants.

The main purpose of the reorganization will be to secure maximum value for money in the operation of the yards, provide greater scope for competition and establish a much clearer customer and supplier relationship between the Navy and the dockyards.

His idea of introducing private management and, in particular, of taking the work-



A police barricade stops "loyalist" from entering a Roman Catholic area in Portadown (Photograph: John Arthur).

RUC praised by FitzGerald after riots

From Tim Jones, Belfast

After a weekend of horrific violence in which 52 policemen were injured as they prevented "loyalists" from marching through a Roman Catholic area, Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, has praised the Royal Ulster Constabulary for doing a "good job".

His comments are bound to increase the confidence of the security forces in Northern Ireland frequently. I think when they are doing something we and taking punishment for doing their duty, they deserve to have it said they are doing a good job."

During Friday and Saturday in Portadown, at least 19 civilians were injured, and 37 arrested as police with riot equipment made baton charges into the sores of loyalist youths.

At least one policeman was seriously injured as the mob smashed plate glass windows

remained, although reinforcements were close at hand.

In scenes not witnessed since the Army first moved in to the province 16 years ago, Catholic women walked up and down the street offering tea and coffee to the soldiers, who were present to back up the RUC.

Mr Harold McMaster, deputy leader of the official Unionist Party, said: "If the people of Northern Ireland needed it to be proved to them that lies have been told about the real motivation of the Chief Constable in re-routing a Protestant parade, the Prime Minister of the Irish Republic has done it."

"What Douglas Hurd and the Chief Constable have done at the insistence of the Prime Minister means the police in Portadown are now going to find themselves the enemies of both loyalists and republicans."

On Saturday the youths were joined by others wearing balaclavas to prevent identification for police photographers. They had powerful hunting catapults from which they fired ball-bearings.

The fighting on Saturday reached its worst as members of the Protestant Black Preceptory, which was not involved in the mock battle at Sarsna where once again King William of Orange defeated King James as he had done at the real Battle of the Boyne 295 years ago.

The police yesterday reopened all entrances to Ombus Street, where the Catholic population had been under siege for two days. Hundreds of troops were withdrawn and only a small police presence

SDP would lift tax on savings

Continued from page 1

In its Green Paper *Fairness and enterprise: tax reform proposals* the SDP says that the present tax system is defective in the narrow and far from coherent definition of what is taxable income, and that exemptions have greatly eroded the tax base. If someone pays for an ocean-going yacht out of capital his tax bill will be much lower than if he tries to finance the same expenditure out of a salary.

The document says the SDP proposal will be a "charter for enterprise". Most people will continue to make savings for a house or pension their top priorities, but once all savings are treated alike other forms of savings will become relatively more attractive than they are now.

Its immediate proposals would include abolition of the national insurance system and its integration with income tax. Tax rates would start at 39 per cent, the combined rate of income tax and insurance contributions. Men and women would be taxed separately; mortgage relief would be preserved in its present form although no longer given against higher rates of tax.

The SDP also proposes a tightening of capital transfer tax.

It adds that the State Earnings-Related Pension scheme should be modified, to reduce its cost, rather than phased out.

It is phased out, however, the SDP proposes "jointly with the Liberals" that basic pension should be increased by 20-25 per cent.

That, however, would depend on the impact on employers' costs. Such an increase, the SDP calculates, would cost £4.5 billion a year.

Sarah Hogg, page 13

Thames denies Dallas franchise threat

Mr Hugh Dundas, chairman of Thames Television, last night denied that the Independent Broadcasting Authority had even threatened to withdraw the company's franchise because of the dispute with the BBC over the serialization of *Dallas*.

He also said "large parts of the United Kingdom" might not have shown *Dallas* because other ITV companies boycotted the series after Thames conducted the negotiations for the series by itself.

Dundas's statement came two days after the resignation of Mr Bryan Cowgill, Thames's managing director, who left after a dispute about his purchase of the show's next series.

Mr Dundas said: "The contract to acquire *Dallas* for the whole of the UK was entered into on Thames's behalf without the knowledge or consent of the Thames board, although it was quite clearly important in several respects."

One of the key aspects of the contract was "the very onerous, open-ended commitment to go on buying the series indefinitely at a substantially increased cost year by year, a matter which, in accordance with company practices, should have been subject to board agreement in advance," Mr Dundas said.

He added that although the contract could be implemented only with the help of the whole ITV network, other television companies were not consulted.

"It was made crystal clear to me, personally, from the highest level in other companies that they strongly objected to Thames's unilateral action and had no intention of appearing to condone it as a precedent by networking the programme in their areas, unless mandated to do so by the IBA."

The IBA had objected strongly to Thames's action. "The authority regarded the acquisition as being against the public interest in that it was likely to result in the programme, which was very popular with the whole British public, being unavailable to large parts of the UK," Mr Dundas said.

Lawsuit deals speed sale of British Airways

Continued from page 1

Freddie would find it difficult to stage a comeback because he would require a licence from the Civil Aviation Authority, and the agreement of travel agents to handle ticket sales.

The Association of British Travel Agents failed to support his attempt to get back in business in partnership with Lufthansa after the collapse of Skytrain.

The 2,300 former employees of Laker Airways are viewing settlement proposals to compensate them for the loss of their jobs with suspicion and caution.

Mr Alan Hellary, aged 61, Laker's flight operations manager, and a founder of the Association of Laker Employees, said he will be discussing the matter further with lawyers. He said: "I wasn't terribly excited by the news. We want compensation, in many cases for loss of career and loss of way of life. We are not like the stockholders who were interested. We have lost a great deal more."

Heathrow treatment of Asians a 'scandal'

The treatment of Asian visitors arriving at Heathrow Airport was now a "scandal" according to Mr Denis Howell, Labour MP for Birmingham Small Heath.

He wrote to Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary: "You must accept full personal responsibility for the degrading treatment of people who are detained although not interviewed."

Last weekend, Mr Howell said he had to deal with 12 separate cases of visitors being held without questioning for between nine and 24 hours before his intervention allowed them temporary entry.

He continued: "Almost all had relations in distress outside, and there is no doubt that the system at Heathrow has broken down. That is the view of senior immigration officers, to whom I spoke."

"It is a scandal and is causing intense resentment in the Asian community. Here are British citizens waiting for visitors for hours on end at Terminal three and they rightly say 'we are being degraded'."

"At the same time they see hundreds of white visitors, particularly Americans, who go through immigration in a matter of minutes. I have asked Mr Brittan several times for the number of Americans not allowed in, or whose hosts are even questioned."

Dispute at 'holiday camp' jail

Prisoners in the newly opened Wayland Prison at Briston, Norfolk, are being locked in their cells for most of the day because of a work-to-rule by prison officers.

Prison Officers' Association members say they are dissatisfied with manning levels which they claim have led to vandalism, drug-taking and violence among the 470 prisoners.

The £17 million prison has tennis courts and landscaped gardens, which led local councillors to label it a holiday camp when it opened last May.

'Go-it-alone' call from MP over fighter project

Mr Denzil Davies, Labour's defence spokesman, said yesterday that Britain must warn her would-be partners in the five-nation European fighter project that she would "go it alone" and build her own aircraft if an agreement was not reached.

He was commenting on reports that the project was near collapse because the French and West Germans had struck a deal which excluded Britain.

Mirror planning work from home

Reporters at *The Mirror* are taking legal advice over a management plan for about 20 of them to work from home.

They would leave their offices and lose company cars, but have full pay for the rest of their careers, without expenses and agreeing not to work elsewhere in the media.

Boy, 11, dies in explosion

One boy died and another was badly injured yesterday after an explosion at an electricity sub-station. The boys, both aged 11, climbed a wall to play in the sub-station in Nottinghamshire.

Paul King died in Nottingham City Hospital and Lee Bradley is in a critical condition.

The Times overseas selling prices: Argentina \$25, Australia \$15, Canada \$12, France £10, Germany £10, Greece £10, Hong Kong \$12, India £10, Italy £10, Japan \$12, Korea \$12, Malaysia \$12, Mexico \$12, New Zealand \$12, Norway \$12, Pakistan \$12, Singapore \$12, South Africa \$12, Spain \$12, Sweden \$12, Switzerland \$12, Taiwan \$12, Thailand \$12, USA \$12, Yugoslavia \$12.

THE RAINBOW WARRIOR.

HELP US STOP A TRAGEDY BECOMING A DISASTER.

A peaceful protest has just been sunk by an outrageous act of violence.

Not only did we lose the Rainbow Warrior, but more tragically one of our crew, Fernando Pereira lost his life.

So that this tragedy doesn't turn into an even worse disaster, we're determined to do three things:

- To help the murdered crewman's dependents which include two young children.
- To recover what we can of the Rainbow Warrior.
- And to continue our vital (but peaceful) campaign for a nuclear free Pacific.

Please help us by sending a donation now to:

The Greenpeace Rainbow Warrior Appeal and/or The Greenpeace Pereira Fund.

I wish to donate £ _____ to the Greenpeace Rainbow Warrior Appeal.

I wish to donate £ _____ to the Greenpeace Pereira Fund.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Postcode _____

If paying by Access (only), please quote A/c No. _____

Signed _____

Receipt will only be issued if requested.

To Greenpeace, 36 Graham Street, London N1 6LL.

GREENPEACE

Collage exam

A second study... results in today's... again that pup... and secondar... achieve more... than those in co... The research... The Coun... National Stand... that examination... between... schools, even w... There are also... between local... with... backgrounds... The findings... analysis of the... 2001 schools... those of the 1983... Marks and M... Sreanick... That research... from the educat... ment in two years... to be statistically... and not... enough account of

Hea 10-

Non figures pu... on the eve of a... talks show a sign... in the salaries of... during the past... compared with... parole jobs... Compiled by... heads' organiz... National Associa... Teachers' figur... example, that the... largest comprise... or sixth-form cu... annual salary co... compared with an... three, who... The head-of-... smallest primary... centres £11,073, co... the £16,359 salary... manager... The association... the comparative... pared at the time... report on teacher... updated them. Th... example, that the... group two primary... of the smallest)... £4,839 in 1975, ab... as an office i... £4,851.

EEC t for p

An EEC "stres... " is on the wa... package holiday ma... The EEC leg... meant to end the... bar forced the A... British Travel Age... an urgent review o... conduct a four ope... This has re... mandated five uni... holiday companies... of customer compl... cancellations, la... switches of departu... destinations... The problem... Europe, according... Commission sur... showed that out... million people in... holidays each year... million face some... disappointment... over accommodation... Details of the new... covering package h... still being cause... limiting the freedo... operators to chanc... without compensat... setting-up of a "rap... and inexpensive... found in cases... dispute... The 18-point pa... das plan will also... comprehensive writ... between... (rent, and contain... dation that down-pa... holidays should ne... 10 per cent of the tot...

Park firew attract 125

About 125,000... and an open-air p... Handel's Music for... fireworks, with a... in Hyde Park... on Saturday to cel... the anniversary of... peace's birth... Led Chief Insp... for of Hyde Pa... "It was the big... to the park, since the... display on the eve o... The Royal Bank... spent £350,000 to... event.

Fren

Having won alm... the British apple m... hence their exports... range of fruit and veg... the United Kingdom... next few years... French producers... to do a deal with... year so that their jo... in Britain can be sta... complete... Although shipm... French Golden Deli...

Doctors propose ethical guide for drug trials and treatment

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The British Medical Association is attempting to set up an independent national committee to provide ethical guidelines for research ranging from drug trials to tests of techniques and treatment.

The move comes after controversy about some research studies and the failure to get adequate local ethical committees set up in every health district to approve research.

The association is also worried that two students have died in recent drug trials and that some research is facing difficulties when multi-centre trials have to be approved by up to 20 or more local ethical committees which may well raise different questions and objections to the studies.

The association has approached the Department of Health and Social Security, the Medical Research Council and the royal colleges of medicine about the proposals. While the initial response has been lukewarm, the council is shortly to hold preliminary talks with the association.

Dr Sandy Macara, chairman of the association's ethical committee, said the proposed national ethical research committee would be free standing, independent of the association and other bodies and have lay representation.

Its aim would be to approve multi-centre studies, lay down guidelines for what constituted ethical research and provide guidance and help for local ethical committees on what was acceptable.

Dr Macara pointed to the controversy that has surrounded the council's trial of folk acid supplements for women at high risk of having a spina bifida baby. The trial attracted criticism because only some mothers in the study will receive the supplements which

may help reduce the risk of spina bifida.

"If there had been a national committee the MRC could have referred that study to it and might have been easier to convince the public that this trial was ethically acceptable and needed doing", Dr Macara said.

The committee was also needed because too many districts still had poorly constituted or ineffective local ethical committees. "Until we have a national body with the authority to prepare guidelines there is little incentive to districts to have an adequate structure."

Other issues the committee could tackle would be payment for taking part in trials both by volunteers and doctors. There were allegations that doctors had been paid for each patient they placed on a new drug for trials that were sometimes of dubious value and there was the question of whether paying volunteers to take part in drug trials represented an unethical inducement.

In the two trials in which volunteers had died there was no suggestion that the researchers or drug companies had been negligent, Dr Macara said. "The problem is these things have to be seen to be scrupulously regulated and open to public scrutiny."

A national committee should not hamper research but some cases make it easier, he said. "Some studies involve 20 different centres or even more which can mean that researchers have to get the projects through to different committees all asking different questions or raising different objections."

A national committee could give initial approval making the task of local committees easier, although obviously individual doctors and patients would still be free to object to taking part."

Extradition treaty under review

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Talks are under way between Britain and Italy to renegotiate the extradition treaty between the two countries.

The most important possibility would be the inclusion in the treaty of offences involving drugs. The present treaty was drawn up in 1873 before the first legislation on drug abuse in western societies.

Home Office officials believe that a new treaty including drug offences would benefit Italy rather than Britain. There is no suggestion that Italy is a big source for illicit drugs but it is thought that Britain might be used as a haven by Italian drug traffickers.

A new treaty would be seen as showing British desires to contribute to the international and European effort against drug abuse. Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, has visited Italy twice for talks recently.

The progress of informal talks between officials is described in London as "fairly optimistic", although there appears to be a difference between Italian aspirations and what Britain can offer.

Italy and several other countries are unhappy about the British legal requirements for evidence which would justify a commitment for trial in a British court to be shown before a defendant is extradited.

They have suggested that Britain sign a European convention, which does not include the evidence requirement, but this appears not to be a possibility at present.

Ministers are considering a review of the Extradition Act 1873, which may lead to legislation ending the requirement.

Icebergs threat to record bid

Unexpected icebergs could delay the British challenge to the Blue Riband speed record across the Atlantic scheduled to go ahead within the next two weeks.

Mr Richard Branson, head of the Virgin Atlantic airline, who flies to New York today to join other members of the team, said icebergs had been seen directly on the route due to be taken by the powerboat, Virgin Atlantic Challenger, fitted with two 4,000 hp engines.

The nine-man team, which hopes to make the crossing from New York to the Isles of Scilly in three days, will meet in New York to decide when to start its record attempt.

Jacklin off on 18-course swing

Tony Jacklin, the former British Open champion was due to tee off at 5am today for the longest round of golf in the world.

By dusk tonight he will have covered 700 miles by helicopter, and played a hole at 18 of the country's finest courses, starting at Lytham St Annes, Lancashire, and ending at Little Warley, Essex.

Quiz show cash for rescue team

Coniston mountain rescue team has received an unexpected donation of £1,190 from a local teenager who won the cash in a television quiz show.

David Pegg, aged 18, of Morley, said he chose the team because he was a keen climber and believed the work of mountain rescue was often forgotten.

A profit in putting people behind bars

As the United States tries to grapple with an ever-increasing prison population, Trevor Fitzlock, in the first of two articles, reports from New York on a new way of running the nation's jails.

It was typically American that someone looked at the grim exterior of a prison and saw not so much a penal institution but a way of turning a profit.

Hundreds of prisoners are now serving sentences in privately-built and privately-run jails that have opened in the past three years as a consequence of the jail crisis, a rapidly-growing prison population, a cell shortage and high costs.

They also reflect the trend under the Reagan Administration towards tax reduction, public spending cuts and the privatizing of a wide range of public services.

Private companies are looking for a share of the \$10 billion spent every year on keeping people behind bars. They say they can build prisons more quickly and cheaply than the authorities because they do not have to go through a political process and the raising of bonds to finance them. They say they cut costs by being more efficient than government institutions.

Private jails are attractive to authorities because they are up to 20 per cent cheaper than public prisons. It costs an average of \$276 a week to keep a prisoner in a federal jail, about the same as in Britain. But costs vary widely: New York State spends an average \$373 a week, Texas only \$134.

A new county jail in Tennessee, run by the Correction Corporation of America, largest of the private prison companies, charges the local authority \$21 a day for each prisoner, \$4 less than it used to cost the authority.

Private jail companies are hardly likely to run short of clients. The United States jails a larger proportion of its people than any other Western country and its prison population is growing rapidly.

The number of people in Federal and state prisons has doubled in the past 10 years to around 450,000, about one person in 515, and there are about 200,000 more in local jails, on remand or being held as illegal immigrants. In Britain 52,000 people are in prison, one in 1,077.

Many American jails are filled to overflowing, partly a reflection of the stronger law-and-order mood and tougher sentencing. President Reagan noted in his State of the Union speech this year that criminals are being jailed in record numbers.

But while public and politicians demand even harsher measures to combat crime they are reluctant to pay taxes to finance prison building or make improvements. Many jails are so bad that two thirds of the 50 American states have been ordered by courts to improve conditions that breach the constitution's prohibition of cruel punishment.

Private jails seem to some to be a proper extension of free enterprise. Even doubters think that they can only be better than many of the appalling public jails. To taxpayers and local authorities they offer value for money and also a way of putting inconvenient problems such as prison guard unions and pensions on to a contractor. Private jails tend to pay their guards less and have smaller and less well-trained staffs than government prisons.

But the concept of Incarcerations Inc. is the subject of deepening debate and concern as the implications become clearer.

It is argued that the authorities are wrong to leave to free enterprise a public function as important as imprisonment. In the nature of things prisoners are helpless and it is held to be morally wrong to leave them to the possible tyranny and exploitation of private jailers whose purpose is profit and who may not be under close public scrutiny. Who will be responsible for the fair treatment of prisoners? Who will watch the custodians?

There is concern, too, that the private prison business could become as entrenched, manipulative and profiteering as the military-industrial complex: it may be cheaper at first, but once it becomes indispensable it will be able to raise prices without restraint.

Tomorrow: Costs and consequences

Fragile Sri Lanka peace at risk as Tamil talks adjourn

From Richard Ford, Delhi

Talks aimed at resolving the communal conflict in Sri Lanka have adjourned for a month bringing fears that the fragile cease-fire on the island may break down.

After six days of discussions which apparently made little progress towards solving the strife that has brought the country to the verge of civil war, the adjournment was agreed by both sides meeting in Thimphu, the capital of Bhutan.

A senior official in the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, Mr Romesh Bhandari, had flown to the isolated Himalayan capital when the stalemate between the Sri Lankan Government delegation and the Tamil representatives had threatened to cause the talks to collapse in failure.

India, under whose auspices they were held, is anxious for settlement of the problems between the Sinhalese majority and the Tamil minority on the island. Mr Bhandari spent two days in informal meetings with both delegations before they agreed to meet again on August 12 at Thimphu.

Before leaving the capital, it was reported that the Bhutanese Government made arrangements for both delegations to go on a sight-seeing tour.

Details of what occurred in Thimphu have been sketchy as it was deliberately chosen for its remoteness and no journalists were allowed entry to the country.

One Indian reporter who managed to arrive in the capital was quickly detected by government officials who ordered him to return to Delhi on the first available flight. The Sri Lankan Government team, led by President Jayawardene's brother, Hector, put forward proposals for devolving powers to local district councils. These were rejected by the Tamil representatives who said the proposals went no further than those put to an all-party conference by President Jayawardene last year.

A spokesman for the Tamil militants said: "The proposals put forward by the Sri Lankan Government as a solution to this problem are totally unacceptable and we have rejected them." The spokesman added that it was up to the Government to produce more proposals and they were prepared to consider any other ideas aimed at solving the problem.

Both sides used the talks to register complaints about alleged breaches of the cease-fire and though it is expected it will continue until the next round of discussions, there are doubts about whether it will hold.

The Tamil representatives complained of violations by the Sri Lankan security forces in the eastern part of the island, and alleged that civilians supplied with weapons by the security forces had robbed Tamil homes.

Members of the Government delegation promised to refer the complaints to the authorities in Colombo saying they could not reply to the allegations immediately.

COLOMBO: A spokesman for the Eelam National Liberation Front announced the immediate release of four big guerrilla groups, said in Madras on Saturday that the talks were a "preliminary step although substantial progress could not be made". (Reuter Reports).

A statement from the government team said the first phase of the talks had closed after delegates unanimously agreed to resume negotiations on August 12.

Terror link dismissed by Carter

Corfu (AP) - Mr Jimmy Carter, the former United States President, used a news conference while on holiday in Greece to criticize President Reagan's recent denunciation of international terrorism.

"Terrorism could be dealt with quickly and effectively rather than with threats addressed to a world audience," Mr Carter told the conference yesterday. "That's a mistake for the leader of a great nation like ours."

In a speech to the American Bar Association last week, President Reagan spoke of "a confederation of criminal governments united by hatred of the United States". Mr Carter said he disagreed with the "basic premises of an international conspiracy, of collusion in terrorism between nations and whole peoples".

He also advised against the use of force to achieve the release of seven hostages, some of them Americans who have been held in Lebanon for months.

The former president was speaking at the end of a weekend visit to Corfu, where on Saturday he had lunch with Mr Andreas Pappadopoulos, the Greek Prime Minister.

Mr Carter said they discussed the United States travel warning to Americans to avoid Athens airport.

Tehran lets British officers go

Abu Dhabi (Reuters) - A Kuwaiti-registered ship released by Iran after 23 days of detention unloaded cargo here yesterday as its owners again denied that it had been carrying arms destined for Iraq.

Mr Radwan Shawakfeh, the branch manager of the United Arab Shipping Company in the United Arab Emirates, said that salvage workers were continuing a survey of goods remaining on the Al-Muharrag, whose crew includes nine British officers, after Iran impounded 2,856 tonnes of Iraqi-bound cargo.

He said there had been "not too much damage" to the goods, held in the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas since Iranian gunboats seized the ship on June 20 in the Gulf of Oman.

Iran's Charge d'Affaires in Kuwait, Mr Mohammed Reza Bagheri, said on Saturday that arms were among the off-loaded cargo, although Mr Shawakfeh said that "there were no weapons at all".

He described the impounded cargo as "general cargo" destined for several consignees but would not elaborate.

Mr Shawakfeh said the ship would unload 900 tonnes of cargo for Abu Dhabi before resuming its scheduled route on Tuesday to Kuwait via Dubai, Doha and the Saudi Arabian port of Dammam.

Russians recall Berlin general

East Berlin (Reuters) - The commander of the Soviet Union's 400,000 troops in East Germany, General Mikhail Zaitsev, has been replaced in the second big change affecting the Soviet military hierarchy in a year, the official ADN news agency said.

It said that General Zaitsev, a powerful figure long regarded as a possible future supreme commander of Warsaw Pact forces, was leaving his post along with General Alexei Lissichev, a senior member of his staff. No successor was named.

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Private Prisons Part 1

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Tomorrow: Costs and consequences

Belgian Cabinet weathers riot debate

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The Belgian coalition Government has chosen to cling on to power for another five months rather than accept any responsibility for the riot at the Heysel football stadium in which 38 people died.

After two days of divisive debate in Parliament, it became clear on Saturday evening that the majority of members felt the interior Minister, Mr Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb, should resign. But since such a move would bring down the Government, Liberal members of the coalition agreed with vociferous reluctance to support him.

By the time the final vote was taken late on Saturday evening, all the opposition members had walked out of the chamber in disgust. The president of the Chamber, Mr Jean-Pierre Defraigne, abstained because, he said, the motion left before the House no longer had any sense.

It was the Liberal members of the coalition who had been totally unconvinced by Mr Nothomb's protestations of innocence throughout the debate. Speaking on their behalf before the vote Mr Charles Poswick said he and his colleagues would support the Government only because they wanted it to stay in power.

It would have been far better for the minister, Mr Poswick said, "who in my eyes bears an appreciable part of the responsibility", if he had resigned so as not to put the Government at risk.

While the debate had raged in the Chamber, Mr Wilfried Martens, the Prime Minister, had been wheeling and dealing in the corridors. If members voted to force Mr Nothomb to resign then all his fellow Christian Democrats would resign with him and the Government would fall. The Liberals were warned that a general election called in those circumstances would be impossible to win.

By a procedural trick, no vote was taken on the motion condemning Mr Nothomb, which had been tabled by the Socialist Opposition. That led to their walk-out and to all but seven of the 116 members still present at the end of voting for a motion which held the British hooligans primarily to blame.

Prisoners freed on Bastille Day

Paris (AFP) - President Francois Mitterrand yesterday marked Bastille Day by announcing the immediate release of some 2,400 prisoners in East Germany, General Mikhail Zaitsev, has been replaced in the second big change affecting the Soviet military hierarchy in a year, the official ADN news agency said.

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Howitzer-equipped French units rolling down the Champs Elysees in yesterday's parade

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European notebook

Community capacity by 30 million tonnes over five years. As no one knows better than British Steel, this has been a painful process involving thousands of redundancies. The EEC is supposed to be an economically stable EEC industry from the start of next year.

That clearly is just impossible. Another 24 million tonnes or so of capacity ought to go to bring the EEC production capability down to around 115 million tonnes. That is reluctantly accepted by the Commission and it is clear it will be very expensive and politically difficult to make any such reduction.

Over and above that, the environmental concerns are looming. The Commission is about to launch a major offensive to smother from large industrial complexes - such as steel plants, the cost of installing the necessary equipment to filter the noxious substances out of the high chimneys is likely to be crippling for the struggling industry.

So more aid to shut down plants and to moderate them will probably have to be authorized. West Germany, which has been chafing at the existing system of quotas and subsidies for some time, will not like that. Britain, which did so much to shed so much so quickly, will not be too happy. If there is discrimination, the EEC competition policy will be at risk in another area.

It is not a happy time to be a European commissioner.

Dark days for men with the hardest job in Brussels

This is a bad time to be one of the European community commissars. They are having to take extremely difficult decisions, with enormous political implications, on the two issues over which they have greatest competence and responsibility - agriculture and steel. It is painfully clear that they do not like the decisions they are having to take.

The long-awaited Green Paper on common agricultural policy (CAP) reform is due to be unveiled at the farm ministers' council in Brussels some time today. Or then again it might be tomorrow.

Because, for all that political debate is said to be over, there are a number of amendments put forward during the past week, through the various cabinets, which have to be worked into the text. The Green Paper, when it finally emerges, threatens to be unrecognizable and unloved.

It is rumoured that M. Jacques Delors, the Commission President, is particularly unhappy about it because he (and the French Government perhaps) believe it inevitably will mean wholesale unemployment in agriculture if it is adopted. He is said to have refused to put his name to a document which would put three million of Europe's eight million farmers out of work.

Like so many papers on agricultural reform down the years, the latest one places faith on reducing guaranteed prices as the best way of

preventing huge unwanted surpluses building up. But this is the first one to suggest direct income aids to help those farmers who will be unable to survive on lower incomes.

Essential though such a policy may be to prevent depopulation of the countryside and so precipitating a whole raft of social and environment problems, it threatens to be monstrous, and expensive to administer.

Mr Henning Christopherson, the former Danish Finance Minister who now holds the EEC purse strings as Budget Commissioner, fears the worst. He is said to have let it be known that the idea could actually double the cost of the CAP, with big farmers stepping up production to maintain present surplus levels, while the poor farmers would be a permanent and increasing drain on the limited resources of the community.

Since some of the money would need to come from national budgets, the poorer countries with large agricultural populations such as Ireland or Italy would be hard put to find the cash. Yet if they were given special treatment this would cause unfair competition inside the Community and inevitable lead to dissent.

There are many parallels with the steel question - which should have been sorted out last week but which must be studied again by the commission tomorrow because there is no real agreement as how to go on.

All EEC steel subsidies are meant to end at the start of next year after a draconian production pruning programme, which has reduced

Community capacity by 30 million tonnes over five years. As no one knows better than British Steel, this has been a painful process involving thousands of redundancies. The EEC is supposed to be an economically stable EEC industry from the start of next year.

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It is not a happy time to be a European commissioner.

Gorbachov vows early economic reform as populist act fades

From Richard Owen, Moscow

laughed in all the right places, and applauded his calls for hard work and initiative. "We must do, do, do," he said, chopping the air with his hand, in an echo of Lenin's injunction to Russians to "study, study, study".

Pravda has underlined this by asserting in a front-page editorial that if Russian workers wanted to raise material standards and "gain the respect of society" they must "boldly modernize technology, save resources, reduce losses, and learn to walk in step with life, move forward more quickly".

Anyone unable to do this should not hope to receive their wages as usual or even keep their jobs.

This suggested for the first time that those who fail to keep pace with Mr Gorbachov's changes will be dismissed.

A Politburo meeting reported in Pravda said the economic backlog of last winter was being overcome, but many industries had failed to reach their targets so far this year. The Politburo discussed further economic reforms and noted that the result of the limited experiments introduced so far.

Pravda has called for radical changes in the economy and "complete re-arming" of Soviet technology as Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, vowed that Russia would have a new, "flexible and up-to-date" management system by the end of the year.

But the first grumbings emerged about Mr Gorbachov's populist style of leadership, with some Russians beginning to suggest that his "walkabouts" were becoming artificial and staged and were losing their initial impact.

Mr Gorbachov's latest "meet the people" exercise was in Minsk in Byelorussia, reported on the front page of Pravda on Friday and given prominence on television. He was shown chatting to selected citizens of Minsk, as he had earlier been shown talking - apparently spontaneously - to the slightly intimidated but delighted people of Moscow, Leningrad and Dnepropetrovsk, in the Ukraine.

In Minsk, Mr Gorbachov's audience in a public square

before the party congress next February. A number of the industrial experiments begun under President Andropov are being conducted in Byelorussia.

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Holiday for a busy leader

As President Reagan underwent intestinal surgery, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, left Moscow "for a rest" the Soviet press reported. The Kremlin did not say where Mr Gorbachov had gone or how long his holiday would last. There were some reports that he would visit the northern Caucasus, his native region.

Soviet leaders have traditionally taken a summer break at special Politburo complexes on the Black Sea in July or August. President Andropov, Mr Gorbachov's mentor, delayed his 1983 holiday until August to encourage workers and bureaucrats to stay at their benches and desks and raise output.

There is no indication whether Mr Gorbachov will hold an informal summit of Warsaw Pact leaders in the Crimea, as President Brezhnev used to do. Sources said Mr Gorbachov might return to the capital to address the Festival of Youth and Students at the beginning of August, a high propaganda effort by Moscow to win the hearts and minds of young people in the Third World.

Mr Gorbachov, aged 54, is in excellent health, but has taken on a strenuous programme since taking power in March, including four "meet the people" walkabouts (most recently in a Minsk) He has seen a stream of foreign visitors, agreed on a November summit with President Reagan and engineered top leadership changes, in only four months.

As he left Moscow on Saturday Pravda carried a long report of letters it said had been written to him by American citizens hailing his leadership as "a ray of hope in Soviet-American relations". Mr Carl Bodeck of Montana was said to have assured Mr Gorbachov that many Americans did not share Mr Reagan's suspicious and hostile view of Russia, and Pastor Paul Weaver of Pennsylvania wrote that Americans had no need of "Star Wars or more bombs and missiles".

Pravda also published a "letter to the editor" from a Briton named as Mr William Chambers, aged 61, of Havering, Suffolk, who said he was more afraid of the United States than of Russia, particularly because his town was completely surrounded by missiles.

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Zia jails seven for coup plot

Islamabad (Reuters) - A Pakistani military court has jailed seven officers for plotting to overthrow President Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq, according to the official news agency, Associated Press of Pakistan.

After a secret trial which prompted protests by civil rights groups, the five army majors and two air force squadron leaders received sentences ranging from 10 years' hard labour to life imprisonment. Twelve other accused in one of Pakistan's most sensitive secret trials during the past eight years of martial law were acquitted for lack of evidence.

The agency, which cited no source for its announcement, said the conspirators were aided by an unnamed foreign intelligence organisation and coordinated by an exiled leader of the banned Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Mr Ghulam Mustafa Khar.

The defendants were charged with plotting last year to kidnap General Zia, blow up the houses of other generals and Cabinet ministers, destroy bridges and communication lines, incite a mass uprising and seize power.

The secret trial in a jail west of Islamabad was rushed to an end without hearing 47 of the 64 witnesses the prosecution said it wanted to call, sources close to the case said.

The sources said the case was wound up quickly because it would not stand up in a civilian court if martial law were lifted. General Zia imposed martial law in 1977 and has promised to end it soon.

According to statements smuggled out of Attock Fort in May, the defendants were forced to lie naked on blocks of ice, given electric shock treatment and had chili peppers inserted in the anus until they signed confessions.

According to the indictment the plot was hatched in June, 1981.

Afghan airmen defect - with helicopters

Islamabad (Reuters) - Pakistan began debriefing seven Afghan Air Force defectors yesterday after moving them and their Soviet-built Mi24 helicopter gunships to an undisclosed airforce base, officials said.

The seven defected on Saturday, arriving in the Pakistani border town of Miranshah in the aircraft which Western analysts consider Moscow's single most effective weapon against Mujahidin guerrillas fighting the Karmal regime of Afghanistan.

An Afghan exile news service in Peshawar quoted one of the pilots as saying the helicopters were due to bomb guerrilla positions around the Pakia province town of Khost when they defected.

Pilot Muhammad Omar and his crewmen were nearly hit by a Mujahidin rocket while playing volleyball at Khost airfield last Friday, the Afghan Information and Documentation Centre quoted him as saying.

Khost, a garrison town under Mujahidin attack for the past few weeks, is 30 miles from Miranshah.

The Mi24 is Moscow's most advanced helicopter, used to carry out lightning raids on guerrilla hideouts and ferry commandos to forward positions during offensives such as the Soviet Army's successful three-week drive to resupply a besieged garrison in the Kunar valley last month.

The aircraft, known also by its Nato designation "Hind", bristle with cannon, rocket pods, anti-tank missiles and nose and side-mounted machine guns.

Planes brought to Pakistan in earlier defections included jet fighters and the more common Mi8 helicopter, which is flown by several non-communist countries, including Pakistan.

Western diplomats said the defections appeared to confirm reports they had of growing dissatisfaction in the Afghan Air Force, which has been rocked by an inquiry into a sabotage bombing at the large Shindand base in western Afghanistan.

Several air force officers have been executed and more than a dozen are being questioned in Kabul about the June 12 bombing at the Russians' best-defended airbase in Afghanistan. The diplomats also had reports of unrest at another large base at Bagram, north of Kabul.

Mountain man found guilty of murder

Front Trevor Fishlock New York

A man who abducted a woman with the intention of starting a tribe of Rocky Mountain wanderers has been convicted of murdering a friend who tried to rescue her.

A jury in Virginia City, Montana, also found Donald Boone Nichols, aged 54, guilty of kidnapping the woman.

He and his son, Daniel, aged 20, who was found guilty of kidnapping at a separate trial in May, await sentence.

The Nichols had roamed the Rockies for a year and planned to kidnap a woman

He bought a dog chain to hold a woman prisoner and, a year ago, the two men pounced on Miss Karl Swenson as she jogged through the forest near the town of Big Sky.

Donald Nichols said he thought that after a few days she would be persuaded to join them in the mountains. She was not sexually molested.

The morning after the kidnapping the men were surprised by rescuers. Daniel Nichols' gun went off accidentally and Miss Swenson was wounded in the chest.

Spain rebuilds Goya house

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

son of an artisan, spent his childhood, was bought towards the beginning of this century by the Basque painter Ignacio Zuloaga, and renovated at his expense. His heirs handed it over during the Franco Era to the safekeeping of the Aragon local authorities.

But when in June, 1983, the Madrid Ministry of Culture finally stepped in after repeated protests by art lovers to order the cottage's restoration it was just in time to save it from collapse.

Iron supports had to be put in all the rooms because the old beams were not holding and the roof had fallen in.

Red tape in the form of Spain's devaluation process which transferred responsibility for cultural matters from Madrid to Saragossa then caused further delays, while the building firm first chosen went bankrupt.

Spain is trying to make amends for years of neglect of the humble cottage in Fuendetodos, Aragon, where one of its greatest painters, Francisco Goya, was born in 1746.

Without fanfares, almost shamefacedly the two-windowed cottage in the dusty little village near Saragossa was formally re-opened to the public on Saturday by Aragon's councillor for cultural affairs, Señor José Bada.

The simple restoration in 18th century rural architectural style has disappointed many people in Fuendetodos, who had wanted something much grander with a luxury hotel built beside to attract tourists. Señor Luis Ullilo the architect in charge explained.

A museum is planned to be opened next year. The cottage where Goya, the

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Miss Kate Burton, eldest daughter of the late Richard Nixon, receiving well-wishers after her marriage to Mr Michael Ritchie (centre) in the Swiss village of Celigny. The ceremony took place in the chapel where the actor's funeral service was held a year ago. Mr Ritchie, aged 25, is a theatre producer, his wife, aged 27, the daughter of Burton and his first wife Sybil. The 1949 marriage was dissolved after 14 years. Burton was also twice married to Elizabeth Taylor. Burton's other two daughters, Jessica and Maria, were not among the group of 15 relatives and close friends at the wedding.

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Reagan's return to health

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

President Reagan is unlikely to be fit enough to make major decisions at the White House for at least a month, a leading British specialist in bowel cancer said yesterday.

The post-operative optimism about Mr Reagan's prospects of recovery, as expressed by doctors in the United States, was challenged by Mr John Northover, a consultant surgeon at St Mark's Hospital, London.

Mr Northover said suggestions that the President could be running the country again with hours of the operation were "extremely optimistic".

He added: "A 74-year-old man recovering from a very major operation is not fit to make major decisions in that short period of time."

Tests by pathologists on the 2in diameter tumor removed from the President's intestine should reveal today whether the growth had traces of malignancy. Mr Northover said he believed the chances of malignancy were "50 per cent plus" but it was extremely unlikely that it had spread further.

Cancer of the intestine kills about 17,000 people in Britain each year, most of them in the 45 to 75 age group.

The death rate is nine times higher than that caused by cervical cancer, but it can be cured if treated early enough.

All the evidence suggests that Mr Reagan's condition was identified at a pre-cancerous stage. Typical care of a patient

Surgeon questions fitness

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

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How President handed over power

The following is the text of a letter President Reagan signed on Saturday and sent to the President pro tempore of the Senate (Senator Strom Thurmond, Republican, of North Carolina) and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives (Mr Tip O'Neill, Democrat of Massachusetts) transferring power to the Vice-President, Mr George Bush:

Dear Mr President (Mr Speaker): I am about to undergo surgery during which time I will be briefly and temporarily incapable of discharging the constitutional powers and duties of the office of the President of the United States.

After consultation with my counsel and the Attorney-General, I am mindful of the provision of section three of the 25th Amendment to the Constitution and of the uncertainties of its application to such brief and temporary periods of incapacity. I do not believe that the drafters of this amendment intended its application to situations such as the instant one.

Nevertheless, consistent with my long-standing arrangement with Vice President George Bush, and not intending to set a precedent binding anyone privileged to hold this office in the future, I have determined and it is my intention and direction that Vice-President George Bush shall discharge those powers and duties in my stead commencing with the administration of anesthesia to me in this instance.

I shall advise you and the Vice-President when I determine that I am able to resume the discharge of this office.

May God bless this nation and us all.

Sincerely, Ronald Reagan.

Nasa aims for launch in 2 weeks

From Mohsin Ali Washington

Engineers suspected a faulty mechanical device was responsible for the aborting of the space shuttle Challenger's launch on Friday, just three seconds before blast-off time.

Nasa officials said they hoped that after repairs the spaceship, with its American crew of seven, could be readied for another try in about two weeks.

With its main engines ignited and spewing orange flames, the shuttle's scheduled take off at 9.30pm was suddenly halted by shutdown commands from on-board computers.

The crew were thought to have detected trouble with an actuator used to rotate frigid liquid hydrogen coolant to the walls of a rocket combustion chamber.

The Challenger's two big solid rocket boosters did not fire and the crew members were safely evacuated.

The Friday launch cancellation threw another wrench into Nasa's already tight schedule of a shuttle mission every month.

The Discovery is due to blast off on August 21. It was not immediately known if Friday's launch abort would affect that mission.

The seven-day Challenger mission was packed with about 580 million worth of telescopes and other advanced scientific equipment, in a new space laboratory developed for Nasa by the 11-nation European Space Agency.

Diplomat kidnapped in Beirut

Beirut (Reuters) - The press counsellor at the Kuwaiti embassy has been kidnapped by gunmen in Muslim-controlled west Beirut, sources close to his family said.

Wajed Ahmed Dumani, a 54-year-old Lebanese citizen, was seized in the Ras Beirut area and contacts were being made to secure his release, the sources said.

Dumani's abduction on Thursday is the latest in a series of kidnappings in the city's western sector.

The sources said the gunmen who kidnapped Dumani had since contacted his family to ask about his nationality. The gunmen had apparently mistaken Dumani for a Kuwaiti national, they said.

The sources would not elaborate on the kidnappers' inquiries and no comment was available for comment at the Kuwaiti embassy.

Drug-charge Australians on trial for their lives

From Paul Routledge, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia is bracing itself for an international outcry over death sentences likely to be imposed on two young Australian men detained on charges of drug trafficking.

Mr Brian Chambers, aged 25, of Perth, and Mr Keith Barker, aged 28, of Adelaide, go on trial for their lives this week for allegedly possessing 400 grammes of unprocessed heroin.

Under the Dangerous Drugs (Special Preventive Powers) Act 1985, the death penalty for possession of more than 15 grammes of heroin or 200 grammes of marijuana is mandatory in Malaysia. No one has yet been hanged under the new law, although 31 traffickers have been executed under non-mandatory legislation in recent years. Another 50 have had their sentences commuted.

There are still 49 people on "death row" in Malaysian jails, including eight citizens of Hong Kong, two Thais and one

Salvador rebels blasted to freedom

San Salvador (Reuters) - Troops searched areas around the capital for 149 prisoners who escaped from El Salvador's largest jail in a mortar bomb attack by left-wing guerrillas.

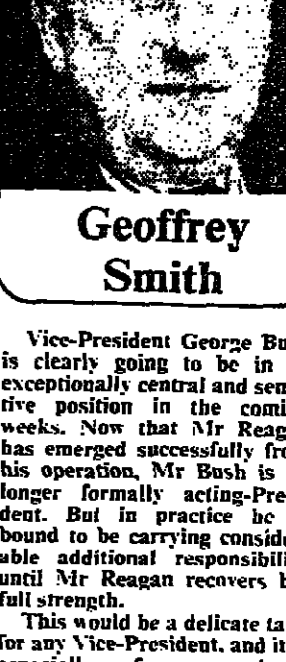
Señor Francisco Alfonso Torres, director of the Mariona prison three miles north of San Salvador, said that one prisoner had been recaptured. Of those at large, 13 were political prisoners.

The mortar bomb attack on Friday night lasted about 30 minutes. Witnesses said the guerrillas arrived in four lorries and blocked an access road with a bus. The attack injured three guards and blew a hole in the wall.

Officials said it was the fiercest attack on the maximum-security prison in nearly six years of civil war between the American-backed government and the rebels.

The 1,500 detainees include 433 political prisoners.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Vice-President George Bush is clearly going to be in an exceptionally central and sensitive position in the coming weeks. Now that Mr Reagan has emerged successfully from his operation, Mr Bush is no longer formally acting-President. But in practice he is bound to be carrying considerable additional responsibility until Mr Reagan recovers his full strength.

This would be a delicate task for any Vice-President, and it is especially so for a man who is well known to be intending to run for President himself at the next election. He cannot afford to give even the appearance of a premature grab for power. He will recall only too well the derision attracted by Mr Al Haig's claim that "I am in charge here" after President Reagan was shot in March 1981.

Mr Bush is unlikely to repeat the mistake of the former Secretary of State. He conducted himself with perfect discretion at that time as Vice-President. His loyalty as the dutiful team player has never been in question.

But it will not be quite enough for Mr Bush to be tastefully self-effacing so long as Mr Reagan is not fit to exercise the full powers of leadership. The Vice-President will also have a part to play in ensuring that the Administration does not become rudderless during this time.

Holiday bus in death crash

Kassel, West Germany (Reuters, AFP) - A double-deck bus carrying 75 Danish and Norwegian holidaymakers home from Italy overturned on a long motorway descent near Lutterberg near here, killing five and seriously injuring 49.

Witnesses said the bus struck a guard rail around dawn and started zig-zagging before overturning. Sections of the roof caved in. Most of the victims were from the top deck. Ambulances ferried the injured to eight hospitals.

Police hoped that the "black box" electronic recording device carried by the bus would disclose what happened.

Ship explosion suspect cleared

Papeete (AFP) - The mystery Frenchman who went on board the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior, before it blew up and sank on Wednesday in Auckland, New Zealand, has been questioned here by French police and appears unconnected with the explosion.

He told police he was a pacifist militant and had visited the ship to express support for the crew. He left his name and address with a sailor, enabling the police to trace him to Tahiti.

Lisbon left pick new leader

Lisbon (Reuters) - Portugal's Socialist Party leaders chose Senator Antonio Almeida Santos as prime ministerial candidate if the party wins the general election October 6.

He was Minister of State in the Socialist-Social Democrat coalition that collapsed last month. The outgoing Prime Minister, Dr Mario Soares is expected to be a candidate for the presidency in January's poll.

Mutineers jailed

Delhi (Reuters) - Eleven Sikh soldiers were jailed for terms of up to 12 years for taking part in a mutiny after the Indian Army stormed the Sikh Golden Temple in Amritsar in June last year. They included the international marathon champion Niranjjan Singh.

Miners gassed

Hong Kong (Reuters) - The bodies of 53 coal miners were recovered from a mine at Melitians, Guangdong province, after one of the worst disasters in China's coal industry.

Making people feel comfortable

Mr Bush is rather well qualified to practice the complex art of exercising a degree of leadership without appearing to do so. He is known to have Mr Reagan's confidence, so there will be less danger of his incurring the suspicion that he is seeking to take the Administration down paths of his own choosing.

Although he lacks Mr Reagan's remarkable capacity to project his personality across a nation, Mr Bush has the gift of making people around him feel comfortable. He is a good listener. His ego does not get in the way of sensible discussion. This will be particularly important now because Mr Bush will not be the only person with responsibility for holding the threads together in Mr Reagan's semi-absence.

Mr Donald Reagan is an exceptionally strong Chief of Staff. In the few months since he succeeded Mr James Baker he has made sweeping changes in the White House team.

Even when the President is working normally, Mr Reagan carries more personal power than any of his recent predecessors. While the President is incapacitated Mr Reagan will no doubt expect to exercise still more control, and it would be damaging for Mr Bush if he were to become locked in conflict with the Chief of Staff.

How well Mr Bush is able to combine the functions of loyalty and leadership may well have a wider bearing on the future of American politics. Assuming that Mr Reagan is fit to serve his full term, Mr Bush will hope to win election in 1988 as the natural heir. Whether or not he receives a formal endorsement, he will be looking for sufficient marks of favour to make it clear where Mr Reagan's preference lies.

Passed loyalty test with honours

But no Vice-President this century has moved directly by election to the presidency. This is more than a coincidence. A successful Vice-President needs to submerge his personality within the Administration.

If he is associated with too many opinions of his own, his loyalty is liable to be in question and he will not receive the backing of the outgoing President. Yet he will not be elected himself if he is not considered a personality in his own right.

Mr Bush has passed the loyalty test with honours. He now has to establish himself in the eyes of the electorate as an independent personality. He will not seek to do this, as some have suggested, by distancing himself in any way from Mr Reagan. Over the next year or so he will hope to be given specific tasks at which he can demonstrate his prowess without any risk of being thought disloyal.

But the election of 1988 may be critically influenced by whether he is now able, without causing offence in the White House, to convey the impression that he is capable of exercising real power.

UK urged to join Euro-currency system

By Edward Mortimer

Giving the 1985 Ditchley Foundation Lecture at Ditchley Park, Oxfordshire, M Giscard d'Estaing urged a package of reforms including, besides British participation in the system, the acceptance of the ECU (European Currency Unit) for private loans and transactions in West Germany and the abandonment of exchange controls by France and Italy. He also called for a European Central Bank equivalent to the US Federal Reserve system.

Mr James Callaghan, who as Prime Minister took the decision not to join the exchange rate agreement in 1979, proposed a vote of thanks. He said he was not in principle against Britain joining now.

A strong plea for the strengthening of the European Monetary System by the inclusion of the pound sterling in the exchange rate agreement, was made by M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former President of France, in a lecture to an Anglo-American audience on Friday night. He spoke in English.

Two generations combining to help a third: Richard Williams on the concert that moved the world

Grains of hope from the gods of pop

Jeremy Nichol and Alan Davidson

Although its ostensible purpose was to bring balm to a far-off people, at times the Wembley leg of Saturday's extraordinary Live Aid concert felt like the healing of our own nation. After the weeks of troubled self-examination that followed the tragedy in the Heysel Stadium in Brussels, here the British seemed to be proving that their young people could gather peacefully in great numbers, drawn as much by a "good cause" as by the chance to worship the gods of popular entertainment.

As the venerable Beach Boys appeared by satellite from Philadelphia, their image on the giant screens and the sound of their carefree summer pop music provoking cheers and community singing around Wembley, the irony deepened. They sang "Surfer Girl", written and recorded in 1963, when Danny Blanchflower was captain of Tottenham Hotspur and Chuck McKimley won the Wimbledon championship. Who in 1963 would have dared predict that while sport could lead young people towards violence in the guise of nationalism, pop music would present them with the opportunity of showing compassion across continents?

Bob Geldof, of course, was the catalyst, and the day belonged to him. Even more rumpled than usual - unlike many of his peers, Geldof is a man who sleeps in his hair - and

Showing compassion across continents

rendered practically transparent by fatigue, he was still to be found at four in the morning, haranguing a BBC camera in a West End nightclub, asking for the umpteenth time the question to which he would most like an answer: how, with millions starving, can the developed world justify the destruction of food surpluses?

There may be some sane and plausible answer, but it would have taken a brave politician to present it to Geldof yesterday morning.

Sometimes the day resembled what passes for normal life at a big rock concert. The stars arrived by limousine or helicopter and paraded for the bucket lenses of the paparazzi. Fans jammed up against the crush-barrier in front of the stage were sprayed with hoses in the ferocious heat, and some passed out.

At other moments, though, it seemed wholly original. For the stars, there was a magical hour in which they could compete for proximity to the Prince and Princess of Wales in the Royal Box, perhaps getting close enough - while Status Quo's "Rocking All Over the World" put the first sixpence in Geldof's "global jukebox" - to exchange views on contemporary culture with the Princess, as David Bowie appeared to do.

For the fans, there was the marvellous game invented during a lull between performances, when the random throwing of an orange teddy bear high into the air led sponta-



All together now: singing the Band Aid anthem (from left) Harvey Goldsmith, Bono, Paul McCartney and Freddie Mercury; McCartney with David Bowie (above right) and Paula Yates with Bob Geldof

neously to the massed hurling of every available soft object. And when the rain came, warm and light, during Elton John's appearance, the multi-coloured umbrellas and polychrome sheets merely added to the gaiety of the scene. Television could not have conveyed the crowd's good humour at such moments.

A little bit Woodstock, a little bit Tiswas, the style of the Wembley event was also an appealing throwback to the days of package tours, when a dozen acts were sent on the road together, each performing their two or three hit songs. Indeed, Elvis Costello and Howard Jones produced performances the more striking for being confined to a single song. Similarly intimate in conception was the half-hour slot shared by Phil Collins and Sting, whose collaboration seemed to constitute the world's biggest living-room jam session.

Others saw things more conveniently. A hilarious video duet of

nationally, Bryan Ferry, Sade, Spandau Ballet, Dire Straits and U2 produced the expected goods, to varying degrees of rapture. The Who came back together after three years for a short set that will probably prove to have been their last word: the sight of Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend falling over each other during the climax of "Won't Get Fooled Again" spoke volumes for the minutes of rehearsal they had devoted to the reunion. Still, as Daltrey pointed out, Bob Geldof's offers are impossible to refuse.

Queen, by contrast, had devoted three days to preparing their short programme, with the result that beneath Freddie Mercury's preposterous preening lay a staggeringly tight performance.

Elsewhere, collaboration was the watchword. High spirits and not a little sentimentality held sway as David Bowie and Mick Jagger "Dancing in the Street," the athletic Paul Young and the elegant Alison

Moyet sang together on "That's the Way Love Is", and Elton John and Kiki Dee met again for "Don't Go Breaking My Heart".

Elton John, in fact, relinquished the microphone for a surprise that was to prove a musical highlight of the entire event, George Michael's powerful version of "Don't Let the Sun Go Down on Me".

Paul McCartney's attempt to lead the crowd in a singing of "Let It Be"

fell victim to recalcitrant microphones, but ended happily with McCartney and Pete Townshend lifting Geldof on their shoulders. The debonair David Bowie, who had earlier given a performance of outstanding panache and was later to recommend an annual repetition of the event, led the ensemble into a

The day belonged to Bob Geldof

final "Don't They Know It's Christmas", the Band Aid anthem, before stars and audience alike left Wembley in search of television sets on which to watch the second half of the concert.

There had, of course, been no Beatles reunion. The surviving trio may occasionally have made questionable decisions, but an agreement to fulfil that particular little fantasy is never likely to be among them.

Over in Philadelphia there were, for a while, few surprises. Crosby, Stills and Nash got together for "Teach Your Children", as did Robert Plant and Jimmy Page, who as Led Zeppelin once attracted half a million people to a single concert. Both reunions, as with that of the Who, were faintly embarrassing. Not many rock stars grow old gracefully.

A few, of course, grow old disgracefully, and one of the liveliest sights of a long day was that of Mick Jagger - the middle-class son of a Home Counties PE teacher -

rubbing noses with Tina Turner, a sharecropper's daughter from Mississippi in a leather mini-dress whose skirt Jagger deftly removed towards the close of their confrontation. Next to these invigorated over-forties, the young princes of Duran Duran seemed oddly staid.

Since the need to rake in cash took precedence over artistic considerations, not much attention was paid to presenting the roots of rock 'n' roll. The benign B. B. King beamed down by satellite from Holland to Wembley, but the most graceful touch came late in the day from the American duo Hall and Oates, who brought on Eddie Kendricks and David Ruffin, the former lead singers of the Temptations.

Bob Dylan, too, had a surprise. The only man to have taken part in both this event and George Harrison's pioneering but ill-fated 1971 Bangladesh benefit, he almost upstaged Jagger by bringing on two



other Rolling Stones, Keith Richards and Ron Wood, to help him through "The Ballad of Hollis Brown" and "When the Ship Comes In". These songs from Dylan's early "protest" phase found an unexpected echo in his plea that some of the money - "just one or two millions" - should go to the hard-pressed farmers of the American Mid-West, victims of high interest rates.

Money, of course, will now be the talking-point. The painter Peter Blake, who provided the artwork for posters, programmes and record sleeves and sat happily throughout the Wembley concert, "thrilled, at my age, to be here and to be involved", sounded a warning: "Will it work? We don't know yet. I'm sure George Harrison cared just as much, but the money never got there. Perhaps the lessons of that will have been learnt."

Donations may be sent to Live Aid Appeal, National Giro Bank, PO Box 200, Liverpool L69 3HW.

been approved. Intended to be practical, lack of pattern "pure" form look was good with the pot plants national style. Thus, by a functionalist symbolize power.

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TOMORROW
Ready Steady Go! The sixties swing back with mini skirts and op-art patterns

Rumour of summer dismissed as speculation.

A MINISTRY spokesman today dismissed reports of the likelihood of summer this year as "reckless speculation."

"This is irresponsible scare-mongering," he said. "Just because February followed January and March followed February doesn't mean we're going to be faced with June, July and August coming along later. Things don't happen like that. If they did you can rest assured that we'd be the first to know."

One of those dissenting from the official view is Mr. Terry Sensible, financial director to a chain of High Street retailers.

"I'm putting in Toshiba air conditioning," he commented. "Their new ceiling units take up no space, are easily installed and, like all Toshiba units, come with a 3 year guarantee. Cool and comfortable staff are more efficient. It makes sound financial sense, especially when you consider that the Toshiba has a heat pump which also saves you money on your fuel bills in winter."

Could this bluff, North country, millionaire eccentric have a point? Only time will tell.

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Hurt in the cause of helping

Two months ago, one of the most experienced social workers in the London borough of Haringey was killed doing her job, minding someone else's business. There is still a palpable sense of collective and individual shock in the social services department. It was an extreme case of violence, but singular only in degree. For violence toward social services staff is on the increase.

The helpful woman or man "from the welfare" is more likely to be a target for rage, frustration and grief than at any time since social services departments were invented 14 years ago.

There have been several other examples of unpredictable attacks on staff in my department in the last few months. They have occurred in unexpected places, with other people present and at times other than the dead of night. They are not "rent-a-night" incidents, nor are they daily occurrences, but they are becoming more common.

A middle-aged home help was scratched and pushed by an elderly, confused woman receiving care, help and comfort in an effort to maintain her independence and stave off institutional care for as long as possible. In very different circumstances, a senior social worker interviewing a young man was assaulted in his office because he would not provide the cash demands of her services departments are not permitted to act as auxiliary banks or supplementary benefit outposts. After hospital treatment the social worker was off work for some weeks.

More recently, a woman social worker had some of her hair pulled out and chairs thrown at her during an office interview with a visitor quite unknown to her. She merely had the ill-luck to be on duty at the time. The assailant wished to change her social worker. Irrationally overcame her. Someone - anyone - got it in the neck.

Residential care workers are not exempt from violence. One was attacked in a hostel for discharged psychiatric patients and people thought not to need acute hospital attention.

In each incident the staff have returned to work after medical treatment, perhaps a little less enthusiastic about their work - and who could blame them? They know that such events cannot be eliminated wholly, no matter how many security precautions are taken. Social services staff work with many people whose capacity to behave peacefully has become impaired, and whose perception of how to live is distorted. Some need social workers to protect them from society's disapproval or hostility. A new way of living has to be devised for them.

Staff are asked to decide how such a "new deal" can best be provided for, or imposed on, a family, say, where one of its members has been damaged. Social workers cannot force a passage into someone's house, make an arrest and put things right. The police may be able to - but social workers lack their legal powers and in any case have no wish to operate in that way.

Yet if they are required to operate in the interests of individuals, they are also called upon to protect society from certain people. Once again, their powers are limited. Doctors, magistrates and the police all circumscribe their powers of action. Neighbours who complain to their councillors, MP, or director of social services that someone in their road is "mental" or, if old, "can't look after herself" may become disappointed or cynical when told the questions are not so simply answered.

There is, finally, a good chance they will become angry when the view of a social worker, concerned to try to balance individual civil liberty against charges of anti-social behaviour, does not concure with the complainant's. The messenger with the bad news is frequently the first casualty.

For families who ask for immediate relief from the demands of a disabled member there is often a different response, rationing of over-subscribed facilities. Waiting lists are not the last refuge of Town Hall scoundrels, but they may be seen as that. And sometimes, sadly, there is no suitable service to wait for. Because most recipients of social services are poor, they have nowhere else to turn. The good reason for a social worker's inability to help becomes a paltry excuse for failure to a desperate applicant.

Social services staff who have been subject to verbal or physical assault have no means of self-defence, apart from flight. Imagine the headlines in the popular press if the home help had tried physically to defend herself against the confused, frail old woman she was helping. Or if the senior social worker had thought to take pre-emptive action against a teenager.

Both these incidents bring into focus another issue which can inflame tense personal relations. That is race. Black people are less likely than ever to accept what they believe is a second-class service. Resent-

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 696)

ACROSS
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4 Use up (7)
8 Soak (5)
9 Last (4,3)
10 Unreceptual (8)
11 Move slightly (4)
13 Butterflies order (11)
17 Responsibility (4)
18 Merry-go-round (8)
21 Indian bread (7)
22 Furins (5)
23 Deer hide (7)
24 Belonging to you (5)

DOWN
1 Pious (6)
2 General direction (5)
3 Addendum (8)
4 Devine (13)
5 Proper (4)
6 Voter (7)
7 Bear (6)

12 Wicked action (8) 16 Gripping tool (6)
14 Rival (7) 19 Confusion (5)
15 Compelled (6) 20 Job (4)

WILL YOUR NEXT HOLIDAY END IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT?

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In the series style, I looks design that live global bus

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MONDAY PAGE

The marketing of a lifestyle

In the first of a two-part series on international style, Isabelle Ancombe looks at the aggressive design and packaging that influences our lives — and gets a global view from three busy travellers...

International style, to most people, means glamour: images of the super-rich trekking from ski resort to Caribbean island with Gucci luggage stuffed with the kind of trophies that mean money in any language.

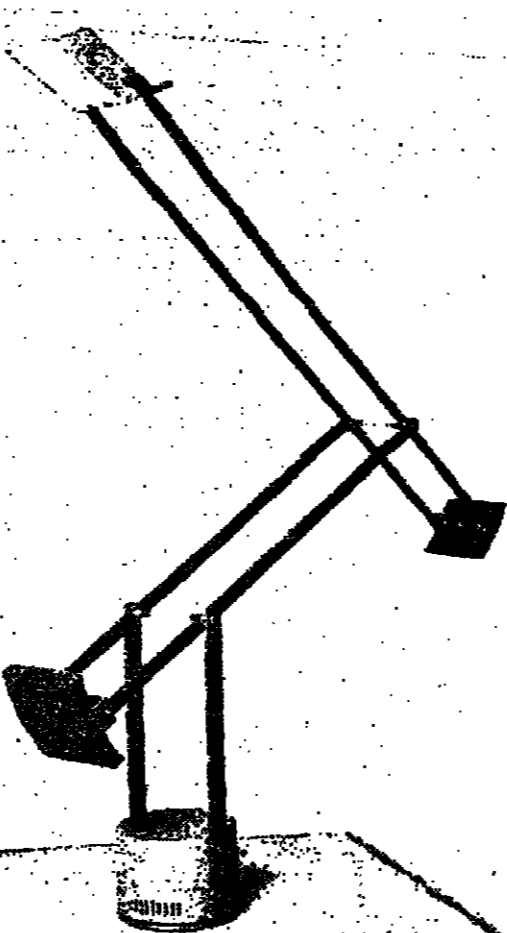
The playboy's toys have the allure of being both expensive and exclusive, rich with the smells and textures of money and power. But, despite its popularity as the vital ingredient in Dallas and Dynasty, it is fast becoming a rather dated conception of fabulous wealth and perhaps now reveals more about middle-class aspirations than the real life of megastars and billionaires.

For the more discriminating, international style has less to do with the iconography of franchised prestige and more to do with their own group of cult objects, defined by good taste. Their self-righteous abstention from the vulgar conspicuous consumption of the jet-set takes the form of minimalist living quarters of black, white and grey austerity, sparsely furnished in glass, steel, chrome and leather.

Such environments derive from the historical design phenomenon known as the International Style, a branch of the Modern Movement, Mies van der Rohe, Le Corbusier and Walter Gropius unknowingly brought this style of radical chic into being in the cause of mass housing in Europe in the early 1920s.

The International Style has now been appropriated by big business. Intended to be democratic, non-elitist, practical and unintrusive by its lack of patterning, "clean" lines and "pure" forms, the leather and chrome look was never cheap. But it looks good with the marble floors and huge pot plants in the lobbies of International Style high-rise office blocks.

Thus, by an indirect route, its creed of functionalism has also come to symbolize corporate money and power.



The authors and artefacts of international style: Walter Gropius (top left), Mies van der Rohe (centre) and Le Corbusier (below) and the clean lines of a Tizio lamp, Sinclair calculator, Sony Walkman and Olivetti keyboard — fine examples of radical chic

elsewhere, as well as an image of how they themselves might live. For the public, the chance to "see how the other half lived" (even if no one really did live like that) has proved enduringly appealing. Around 1930 the London Board of Trade commented perceptively that "motion pictures are influencing fashions, behaviour, dress and housing. People all over the world are deliberately going to a cinema as to an animated catalogue to get ideas". The same must be said today of television.

The industrial designer Raymond Loewy has claimed the credit for the next step towards global marketing. In the 1930s he put forward the

aphorism that "between two products equal in price, function and quality, the better looking will outsell the other". The influence of art on industry was hotly debated, especially in Europe, in the 1930s. By the 1950s styling had become so important to the consumer that manufacturers were able to enjoy a balmy period of built-in obsolescence: a time when, in America, men replaced their cars every year when all that altered was the shape of the tail fins. "New" products, especially within the field of household technology, were constantly introduced.

So how and why is style added onto

a product? Deyan Sudjic, whose new book *Cult Objects* is to be published later this year, says simply that design is to sell things, but added that those people who try to use style to manipulate the buying public usually get it wrong, since the consumer sees the packaging and merchandising of style primarily as a form of entertainment. What is certain is that people want more than mere function when they buy services and objects.

So what types of product are perceived to have a style that is international? First, there are the luxury products: the Dunhill lighter, Chanel perfume, monogrammed accessories. Este

Lauder, for example, don't alter their packaging or advertising in any of the 130 countries in which their products are available. Its genuineness is as vital an aspect as it is in the art market, where the mystique of the product is that, by buying it, the customer enters an exclusive world. Ironically, such manufacturers have to ensure that, despite their ubiquitousness, their customers don't perceive the product to be too easily available, too common, or the mystique vanishes.

Second, there is the group of objects that, broadly, are the inheritors of Modern Movement traditions, that are perceived to be so by interested consumers: almost anything from such companies as Braun, Olivetti or Sony, a Rolex watch, most non-instantaneous cameras, Saab and Porsche cars, most things that are high-tech, electronic and matt-black.

It is a style far more readily assimilated than that with women and one potent element of its appeal is the mystique of professionalism — "this is the camera the professional photographer uses". Even though the customer knows he will never put it to the same range of uses, there is the satisfaction of playing with the big boys, of being seen to take it seriously.

But there is also a host of products and services that are global but not perceived as international in terms of their styling. They include not just Kellogg's, Heinz, Ford, McDonalds and Coca-Cola, but the myriad products produced by multinational oil, chemical or electronics-based companies (JCL, IBM, Philips, or General Electric). Their success has little or nothing to do with global chic and everything to do with technological research and advanced.

Does the imposition of a global standard, the appearance of the same package, trademark, advertising jingles, synthesized sound, computer graphic or familiar smell in every conceivable culture, mean that the world is heading for a state of entropy and homogenization? Or are the same products perceived differently by different people in different contexts?

WEDNESDAY: Part two
Cult products and sales secrets

Nuptial bliss is that touch of Hollywood

Are you listening, National Film Theatre? Here could be the cinematic idea of the century, jointly devised by this column and Clive Hirschhorn, the eminent drama and film critic and Memory Man of Hollywood musicals. Our event would be called "Weddings: Their Role in Cinema" and would include wedding-day footage from the following movies: *The Godfather*, *The Deerhunter*, *Love Story*, *Robert Altman's A Wedding and Best Friends*. This last film has my own favourite nuptial scene: Goldie Hawn and Burt Reynolds are urged to promise "I do and do" to each other by a Spanish priest who can't get his tongue around "I thee endow".

And the wedding reception from *Goodby Columbus* and the bit from *The Graduate* where Dustin Hoffman runs off with the bride, and sales of Kleenex would go through the roof as audiences dabbed happily at their streaming cheeks.

In England, the cinema screen is just about the only place where one can witness a wedding as extravaganza. In real life the great British wedding is rather played-down affair which takes place in the middle of the afternoon with suggy bridge-rolls and warm champagne, and with the clothes of the bridal party chosen on the basis of whether they will be useful additions to the wardrobe after the main event.

We don't go in much for hiring bands that play *This is My Lovely Day* until dawn breaks through on brides' mothers in Barbara Cartland pink and a ridiculous hat. Nor are there sit-down dinners with 12 courses and sugared almonds with the initials of the bridal pair picked out in silver icing.

Even choosing a wedding present to wish the happy couple a life of bliss is a miserable affair in this country. I went recently to the wedding-present desk at Peter Jones's where some friends had placed their list. I was shown a grubby typescript of the items they had chosen, then given a form which I had to fill in sitting at a sort of counter which made me feel like an inept schoolgirl taking a maths exam.

Even when I had completed all the sections of the form, I didn't get a smile from the lady behind the desk and the promise that she, personally, would wrap up the chosen both towels in pretty sheets of coloured tissue and see that they were delivered on time. She gave me a docket to take downstairs to the linen department and made it clear that it was up to me to check that the particular towels were in stock. The whole enterprise was a joyful as queuing up for cholera jabs.

I feel that our wedding-day preparations are, on the whole inadequate rather than spectacular because, as a nation, we are just not bossy enough. Other countries insist on the right to marry at unorthodox times, such as romantic twilight, in unorthodox places, perhaps a rustic bridge beside a lily pond, and to incorporate bespoke items into the marriage service.



PENNY PERRICK

like poems, personal messages and favourite medleys.

We are just as put-upon when it comes to funerals. A woman I know had set her heart on having the signature tune from *March of the Day* at hers. The vicar refused to allow it and she ended up with the customary bit of Bach. But I digress.

What we should do, in order to ensure that a family wedding day is one to remember is to employ a Wedding Organizer, a woman who can see off any quibbling caterers, churchmen and confetti manufacturers with all the finesse of J. R. Ewing. In these days of rather muddling extended families, she could also be in charge of defusing possibly upsetting occurrences and ensuring that the bridegroom's mother and stepmother were complementary, rather than identical, silk two-pieces.

Her mission would be to create a misty-eyed atmosphere of gaiety, excitement and romance. And if that means a drastic sub-editing job on the best man's meandering toast to the bridesmaids, so be it. With skilled professionals in charge, the videotapes of real weddings may yet take their place up there on the screen alongside Hollywood's finest offerings.

When, during the miners' strike, the members of Women Against Pit Closures vowed that never again would wives stay on the sidelines of the husbands' lives, it was a little like a much-married film-star, about to accept her eighth engagement ring, declaring: "This time it's really different".

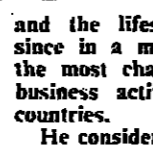
The strike is over, the miners back at work and rather keen on being provided with creature comforts rather than moral support. It presumably was a wish to see wives back in the kitchen that prompted rejection at this month's NCM conference of a proposal to allow the women who raised funds and despatched food parcels during the strike to become associate members of the union.

It's called Typical Male Behaviour and women have been receiving over it ever since Eve. It accuses men of betrayal, breaking promises, an over-readiness to call it a day. They counter-accuse us of being rigid, inflexible fanatics. I hope Women Against Pit Closures are planning a whopping revenge. And meanwhile I suggest burning the bacon, using up all the hot water and putting an overtime ban on all personal services.

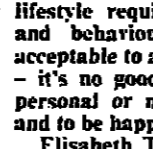
The perks and pangs of the jet-setters



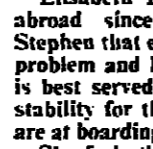
Stephen Telegdy, manager of licensing for Dow Chemical Europe, is a Hungarian-born, German-educated American who lives in Zurich with his English wife, Elisabeth. The job and the lifestyle are inseparable since in a multinational company, the most challenging projects and business activities involve several countries.



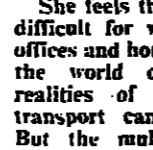
Philippa Ellis, a 29-year-old Modern Languages graduate, abandoned teaching in County Durham three years ago to become a tour director with one of Britain's largest tour operators. Her job is to escort around 45 people who are making a once-in-a-lifetime trip of Europe by coach.



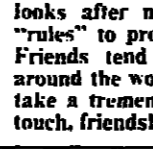
Tony Sinclair, 41 and single, is managing director of the UK subsidiary of Hong Kong Chinese-owned menswear company, Sahara Club. He has been in "the rag trade" all his working life, and for the last 10 years has been travelling, sometimes for as much as six months each year, in Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan, Japan, Thailand, India, Europe and North Africa.



"Although the work is demanding, I'm constantly refreshed by the variety. My perks are a few hours off by myself in a town, when I can get to know a gallery or find an interesting restaurant or café. I might visit the same city a dozen times a year, so it's comfortable to relax somewhere familiar. You do come to feel at home in many different places, so you're not rootless."



"There's no compromise with the job. Indeed, it's quite a good career in that to hide if you don't want a strong emotional relationship. And it's precisely the comforts you occasionally miss that become indulgences when you come back."



And what does she do in the winter months? "You're so exhausted, you stop for a month at the end of the season. Then you start to want to escape, to go to the sun, in search of the exotic." This winter Philippa is travelling in India, at her own expense, to see if that's an area in which she'd like to work.

and the lifestyle are inseparable since in a multinational company, the most challenging projects and business activities involve several countries. He considers that a multinational lifestyle requires a certain culture and behaviour: an ability to be acceptable to a wide variety of people — it's no good airing an aggressive personal or nationalistic outlook — and to be happily mobile.

Elisabeth Telegdy, who has lived abroad since 1960, agrees with Stephen that education is the biggest problem and both feel that mobility is best served by establishing some stability for the children: their sons are at boarding school in England.

She feels that life abroad is more difficult for women, because while offices and hotels are much the same the world over, the day-to-day realities of shopping and local transport can differ dramatically. But the multinational community looks after newcomers. There are "rules" to protect against isolation. Friends tend to become scattered around the world, but while it might take a tremendous effort to stay in touch, friendships last.

Smear tests: cost of a lifesaver

From Michael Johnson, chairman, Hertfordshire Family Practitioner Committee, Parliament Square, Hertford.

Dr Thomas Stuttford (Medical Briefing, July 5) rightly draws attention to the dangers inherent in restricting cervical smear tests to women over 35 years of age, and also to the disadvantages of five-yearly tests on women aged 20 and over as is proposed for the future.

Dr Stuttford also points out that general practitioners are already carrying out a large proportion of such tests. In Hertfordshire (and, I have no doubt, in many other counties) the general practitioners are prepared to offer a comprehensive free call and recall service to all our health districts.

Such a service will require not only a unified cytology policy, which is currently under discussion with the district health authorities, but also, and in our opinion, most importantly, a fully computerized registration department within this Family Practitioner Committee.

This department would be able to cope rapidly, efficiently and economically with whatever age groups or intervals of recall which may, from time to time, be considered appropriate. We have ascertained that in a county of this size, with a population of about one million, the cost of setting up such a system would be £272,000.

From Mrs M. M. Tritton, Brookes Crescent, Reigate, Surrey. Dr Stuttford's article gives considerable cause for concern: something must, indeed, be done

TALKBACK

about the increasing incidence of cervical cancer. But by whom?

Dr Stuttford suggests a massive diagnostic campaign involving heavy government expenditure — which can only be met by cutting costs elsewhere.

To his credit, the BMA has recently been tackling a parallel problem — carcinoma of the lung which is also to a great extent self-inflicted. Realistically, it has not demanded frequent screening for the "vulnerable" (i.e. smokers) — rather it is campaigning to reduce the incidence of disease by discouraging smoking. It would be equally realistic to put the prime responsibility for the prevention of carcinoma of the cervix where it patently belongs — on the patient.

Sooner or later, National Health Service consumers must realize their own responsibility in avoiding unnecessary ill-health — be it caused by smoking, alcohol abuse, or the misuse of sex. This concept must surely be the basis of all health education in the future, otherwise the NHS will be in danger of collapsing under the weight of self-inflicted disease.

Dr Mary Davies, Luton Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire. Your Medical Briefing, "Cervical Cancer: an unnecessary killer" — showed again the terrible waste of women's lives due to inadequate expenditure on cervical cancer screening. Yet thousands of pounds are spent

on heart transplant surgery, to prolong, often for a short time, the lives of a few, mostly male patients, some of whom are not even prepared to give up smoking to increase their chances of survival.

How can this be explained? I can only conclude that the Government and the medical profession put a very low value on the lives of women, which seems extraordinary since it has been calculated by the Family Policy Studies Centre that women carers looking after sick and elderly relatives at home save the country millions of pounds each year. It isn't even good economics.

From Deborah Garman, Whitebridge Close, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Having had a hysterectomy this year at the age of 30 due to cervical cancer, I realize more than most that the NHS guidelines for smear screening are inadequate. They need to be radically changed if they are to stop thousands of women dying unnecessarily each year.

Media coverage can be used to great advantage in making women aware of cervical cancer. But Medical Briefing is biased to the detriment of its hopeful objective — to get all sexually active women to go for smear screening. If the only illustrations you give are of prostitutes, the promiscuous and women with genital warts, you run the risk of thousands of women in stable sexual relationships becoming complacent about cervical cancer. This can only lead to more unnecessary deaths. I was lucky; don't help others not to be.

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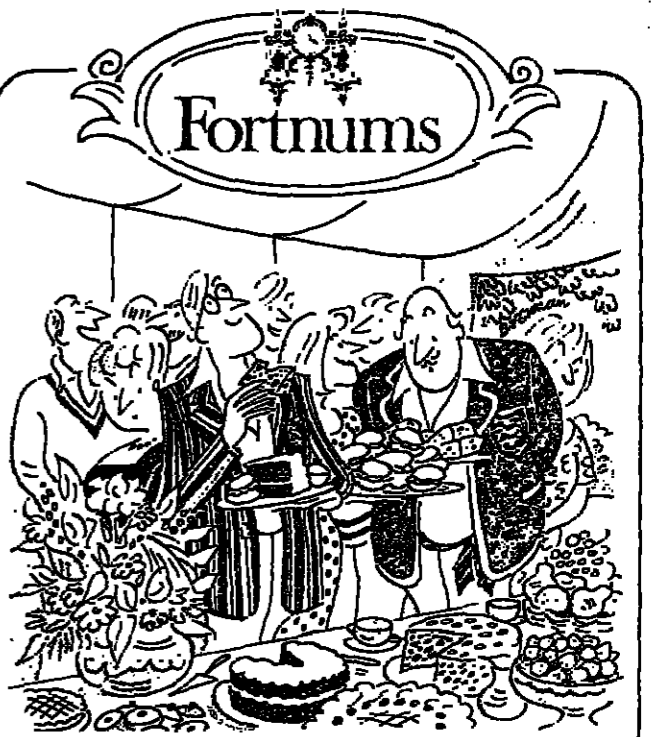
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VANESSA'S DIARY

A near disaster in the tea tent at this year's cricket week. Mrs D. (cakes and pastries) down with mystery bug. Miss F. (fresh fruit) claimed nothing ripe. And Lady M. (flowers) declared everything eaten by aphids.

Rushed up to Fortnum's in state of panic. Immediately calmed by sight of gorgeous freshly made cakes, fabulous succulent fruits, and elegantly beautiful flowers.

Filled car with goodies (including several kinds of tea). The tea tent looked a picture (Lady M. amazed). The fruit voted delicious (Miss F. stunned). And not a crumb left of anything else.

But that wasn't all. Picked up a smashing summer dress reduced by a half. And there are still a few days left for you to take advantage of Fortnum's Reduction Period.

Fortnum & Mason Piccadilly London W1A 1ER. Telephone 01-754 8040

YOUR NEXT VENDOR TARYMENT?

asan DEAF

THE TIMES DIARY

SDP yes,
CND no

Sussex accountant Neville Pressley, a founder member of the SDP, has just been dropped from his party's list of prospective parliamentary candidates because he is a prominent and vocal member of CND.

Off target

The Inland Revenue was doubtless thrilled at the prospect of "doing" an MP for tax evasion. For two years it has hounded Labour's Peter Snape demanding that he declares all income from newspaper articles.

Bitter bit

The watchdog Consumers' Association has just been given a particularly ironic complaint to investigate. It comes from R. K. Brian, chairman of the British Hypnotherapy Association, who describes a forthcoming book on mental health as "awful... a heap of garbage... a muddled and grossly misleading mixture of misinformation from a variety of sources, mostly ignorant ones."



Bugged

Was last week's Newswatch report on the media were fooled by the Hitler Diaries fraud not a shade hypocritical? The presenter, Robert Harris, in May 1981 Harris and Newswatch unwittingly propagated a dramatic but false story - subsequently repeated by the press - about how Churchill had wanted to see the anthrax against German cities.

Acker bilked

Not all playwrights like their names in lights. Kathy Acker, the fashionable post-punk novelist, is so disgusted by the Institute of Contemporary Arts' production of her first play, Lulu Uncensored, that she has demanded that her name be removed from all publicity.

Richard North calls for urgent action to reconcile farmers and public

Make this a harvest of sanity

European farm ministers gather in Brussels today to hear, not for the first time, proposals for the reform of the common agricultural policy. The new wave of ideas on this front has coincided with fresh interest in the closely related question of reconciling the long-term needs of farmers and the rest of society.



Can a combination of sound farming and a healthy countryside be rescued from what is likely to be a shrinking CAP budget? This budget now totals more than £11 billion and is rising rapidly, in spite of a solemn commitment to curtail it.

William Waldegrave, junior minister at the Department of the Environment, spurred on by the Council for the Protection of Rural England, has persuaded his fellow environment ministers to call for an inquiry into the reconciliation of farming and the rural environment.

But there is a long way to go. In May, to the fury of the rest of his colleagues, the German agriculture minister scuppered a scheme which would have reduced the incentives to farmers to produce grain prairies in their fields and grain mountains in their sheds.

Resident's tax is the cosy name they are now giving it, but the purpose of poll tax is plain. If the fiscal pain is not yours, then it is the two young earners next door who are hurt.

At present, domestic rates produce upwards of £6 billion a year in England. That worked out at an average household bill of £306.68p in 1984-85. Many households don't pay because of rebates.

The most obvious - and most difficult - way of reducing the cost is to cut council spending. Six years after coming to power pledged to do this, the government counts itself proud to have "beat" the rate of increase in council spending.

If all adults across the country paid poll tax, a single earner living alone on an average income would be significantly better off. A household with two adult earners would also be better off. Even more

and that public money should be used to fund only the kinds of farming which keep farming landscapes and communities in good heart. Until recently the debate had little help from government departments. Last year, a report by the Lords Communities Committee (Agriculture and the Environment) roundly condemned the Department of the Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture for their failure actively to reconcile farming and conservation (the former it condemned for

David Walker looks at the basic arithmetic of Mrs Thatcher's rates alternative

Poll tax flaws that could see Tory heads rolling

surprising, a household with three earning adults, the unit thought most likely to lose from a switch away from rates, would be only marginally worse off. A three-earner household with an above average income would come out all square.

Meanwhile, the woman living alone on an occupational pension would be considerably worse-off by nearly £2 a week. Here, political reality has to intervene. Poll tax would have to be accompanied by a scheme of rebates for the poor, and pensioners in particular.

The government could either spread their payments over the rest of the electorate or cover them itself. Rita Hale of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy calculated the rest of such exemptions. Excluding all the unemployed (as at March this year) and all people aged 65 and over would cost £1.5 billion a year. That is £705 million more than the cost in 1984-85 of rate rebates.

Table titled 'The Pain of Poll Tax' showing average rates 1984-85, each person aged 18+, 2 person households would pay, and exemption cost per council, per million.

Lebanon's new orphans of the storm

Beirut. It would be nice to call it a haven of peace, an oasis of tranquillity in the midst of violent devastation. But the walls of the Islamic orphanage in west Beirut are pocked by bullets and in places, holed by shells.

Hitting Labour in its heartland

they feel has traditionally "looked after them" and a suspicion that they are being taken for a ride. They are being ambivalent attitude. A similarly ambivalent attitude attaches to all the razzmatazz - the anti-sectarian carnivals and fun-buses and all the rest of it - that has marked the Livingstone years: at one moment it seems a welcome piece of fun to enliven the bleak urban landscape, but at the next it is an irrelevant waste of money when set against the vandalized lifts and fouled stairways and rotting window frames of the GLC's neglected estates.

Again, they know, on one level, that the appalling housing crisis is largely of this government's making but cannot rid themselves of the suspicion that Labour exploits the situation, leaving the housing maintenance system in a hopeless and incompetent mess, for its own political advantage.

The prevailing attitude among Tories is to write off the inner cities - a dead loss electorally, they say privately, but fortunately shrinking fast. Besides, the "pay-roll vote" - an enormous local council vote in many areas the local council is the main employer - has, they believe, sewn them up for Labour. Certainly the increasing participation in Labour Party affairs of activists in the public sector unions and in the various networks of grant-dependent voluntary organizations has meant that Labour Party organization on the ground is formidable.

But in fact there are signs that the close relationship between the Labour Party and the unions is becoming as much a liability in municipal elections as in national politics. The affairs of the London Borough of Southwark have, since I reported on the Nye Bevan Lodge some months ago, become a national scandal; but similar things are happening elsewhere. In Lambeth, for instance, it is no longer possible for the homeless or those on the housing waiting list to receive "walk-in" advice because Nalgo members refuse to man the centres.

The left-wing leadership of the ILEA is under pressure, called off disciplinary proceedings against teachers who have been repeatedly engaging in unofficial "industrial action". And so it goes on, one capitulation to militancy after another, leaving management and conscientious public workers puzzled and demoralized... and the voters beginning to seethe with resentment. "Save our services" sounds a little hollow in these circumstances.

The anti-abortion and anti-rate capping campaigns now echo sadly like aines from last year's populist festival - the first played out and the second an expensive flop. What the London public sees now, when it looks at the London Labour Party, is a bunch of squabbling incompetents. At County Hall Labour's majority is down from its original eight to two. Will it actually stagger through till next March?

Moreover... Miles Kingston. I'm Hymie, prime me. Here are some other approaches which these unscrupulous gentlemen may try on you.

The American Bar Association is holding its annual shindig in London this year, starting today. That means there are 20,000 American lawyers on the loose. These men are dangerous. If you should see one, do not have a go. Above all else, do not have a go. Lay a finger on any of them and they will sue for \$11 million. Why \$11 million? Nobody knows, but this is the sum that American lawyers sue people for, no matter what the supposed offence.

Anne Sofer

Hitting Labour in its heartland

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We wish we could have had this column July 13 for it was on that Saturday, 1878 The Times published the text (in French with a translation) of the Treaty of Berlin at the very hour it was being signed in that city. The scope was a triumph for the paper, in particular for its Paris correspondent, Henri de Blowitz, who accomplished the feat by a mixture of audacity, cunning, and downright lying; some aspects of the business read like pages from the novels of Phillips Oppenheim or William Le Queux. Transcription of copy began at 9 a.m. from Brussels - 11.30 in London and therefore it could only make it into the morning edition, of which, alas, The Times does not possess a copy. The treaty was repeated in the issue of the 15th.

The Congress is at an end, and the results of its many-sided labours are written down in the Treaty of Berlin. We hail the appearance of this important document with a feeling of satisfaction which is amplified by its contents. It is a settlement of the most complex and troublesome problem which has occupied the attention of statesmen in our time. The Eastern Question has now closed to be, what it has been for some time, a menace to the public peace of Europe. We have gained, we fairly hope, something more than a mere breathing space. The treaty does what it is intended to do, and what we may not unreasonably expect from it, it will change the condition of South-Eastern Europe that the Eastern Question can never again present itself in its old form. Its principal provisions are of a two-fold character. It brings a cure to the oppression and misgovernment in the provinces of European Turkey which have furnished in the past an excuse for Russian interference, and it addresses itself to the growth and development of a vigorous and united Balkan League, which will be the surest barrier against all encroachments from without. . . . When we compare Eastern Europe as it was only a few months since and as it now promises to be, the contrast is enormous. Turkey has been crushed and helpless. Russia is pressing on unopposed, and was already in virtual possession of the dominions of her vanquished neighbour. The excitement in this country, and not in this country alone, was so great that it resulted in preservation of peace. The Treaty of Berlin puts an end to all this. The course of Russian conquest is at least arrested. Turkey revives and enters on a new and more hopeful life. The political justice are recognized as they never have before. The measured prose of the Treaty of Berlin appeals to the imagination, if we read it aright, with a force beyond that of poetry. It is the poetry of real life, the charter of hope for all nations well-being to peoples it frees and for whose future career it provides as far as such provision is possible. . . . The Treaty of Berlin is an advance, too, upon previous treaties in the nature of an arrangement which has sanctioned. The States it has dealt with have been treated not as mere inert masses to be disposed of in any way that might seem to suit the general convenience. Lies of race have been promptly by the Government to deal with the present day claim (as well as the funds promised for restructuring), the disruption of schools by industrial action will not only continue for a very long time, it will also inevitably get worse. That fundamental fact about teachers is the willpower which springs from a vast reservoir of sheer determination, the very same indeed which enables them to deal successfully day after day with their own little Keith Josephys (and big ones, too) in their schools. Recalcitrant, uncooperative, stubborn pupils confront teachers every day. Every day teachers cajole, persuade and stimulate their young charges and every day such pupils learn to co-operate, they do behave and they do gradually adopt a more responsible outlook and attitude. But for the totally disaffected, those obstinately set on a course of self-destruction, the time eventually comes when the head calls the parents in for a final word. "I am terribly sorry, Mrs Thatcher, but I'm afraid that young Keith will have to go. We have tried everything here, but he is now upsetting the whole school and that we just will not permit. He's a bright lad, got some good ideas and he can certainly turn on the charm, but if he cannot accept what his teachers say, then he must leave. Perhaps a spot of work experience, do you think?" Yours sincerely, PETER TARGETT, Headmaster, Southgate School, Sussex Way, Cockfosters, Herefordshire.

Bringing home the bacon From Mr. J. B. Miller Sir, Like Mr Martin Salter (July 5) I, too, was surprised that his colleague from Geneva could not get a Swiss roll here. So much so that I checked the shelves of our local Migros and found three varieties: *roulade aux framboises*, *roulade aux fraises*, and *roulade japonaise*. Yours faithfully, J. B. MILLER, 48 ch. de la Chevillarde, 1208 Genève, Switzerland, July 6.

Little-known phrases From Mrs M. P. Visick Sir, I recall that many years ago my bargain Italian phrase book covered all eventualities. The phrase "Which way did the tanks go?" remains embedded in my mind. Yours truly, PEGGY VISICK, Trenvain, Perranwell Station, Truro, Cornwall, July 11.

From Mrs Elspeth Walder Sir, I once made a rough estimate of the date of publication of a German phrase book from one of the entries under the heading "Aviation" which ran: "It is lucky he fell on soft ground". Yours sincerely, ELSPETH WALDER, 45 Courtenay Street, SE11, July 5.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Marching with the Bomb in mind

From the Dean of Westminster and others Sir, In this year of memories we think it important to call to mind that July 16 is the 40th anniversary of the actual birth of the nuclear weapons era. On that day in 1945 the first successful experimental atomic explosion took place in the United States. Within less than a month the experiment gave way to reality. Hiroshima and Nagasaki had been destroyed. Some of the victims are still dying of radiation disease today.

To mark this anniversary CANA - Clergy Against Nuclear Arms - has arranged a procession of witness with the simple theme "Bread not bombs" from St Martin-le-Grand in the City (at 10.30am) to Westminster Cathedral, passing through Fleet Street and Whitehall. As Christian pastors committed to belief in the sanctity of God's creation and the divine presence in every human being we shall be praying for all who bear the burdens of power, that their verbal commitment to nuclear disarmament may become a reality. We know that disarmament - by whatever method - will not be easily achieved. We know too that it must be, if the human family is to survive.

Neither offensively nor defensively can these weapons ever be used justly. But even as deterrents - given their immense costs - they are taking life today by taking the bread out of the mouths of starving children. July 16 is a time for repentance. It is also, if we learn from the past, a time of hope for our children and theirs. Yours etc, EDWARD CARPENTER, Dean of Westminster, ALAN WEBSTER, Dean of St Paul's, PAUL OESTREICHER, Chairman, CANA, ERIC JAMES, Vice-chairman, CANA, PETER SELBY, MARK SALTER, 2 Eaton Sq, SW1, July 12.

Lesson for Sir Keith

From the Headmaster of Southgate School Sir, I agree with much of your excellent leader (July 5) calling for "Sir Keith to turn on the charm" and urging the teachers to recognize that "schools cannot escape the consequences of demographic and economic decline". However, I feel that your perspective ignores one fundamental fact about teachers which will, in my view, ensure that if additional cash is not found promptly by the Government to deal with the present day claim (as well as the funds promised for restructuring), the disruption of schools by industrial action will not only continue for a very long time, it will also inevitably get worse. That fundamental fact about teachers is the willpower which springs from a vast reservoir of sheer determination, the very same indeed which enables them to deal successfully day after day with their own little Keith Josephys (and big ones, too) in their schools. Recalcitrant, uncooperative, stubborn pupils confront teachers every day. Every day teachers cajole, persuade and stimulate their young charges and every day such pupils learn to co-operate, they do behave and they do gradually adopt a more responsible outlook and attitude.

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Commons sense

From the First Parliamentary Counsel Sir, PH'S piece (July 4) about the "gobbledygook clause" in the Finance Bill is a tissue of misinformation. It is not true that the minister, Mr Peter Brooke, was "quite unable to explain" clause 2(7) when challenged in the Commons. When asked by Mr Rhodes James, MP, to write to him to explain exactly what clause 2(7) means, Mr Brooke replied: "I am delighted to give the assurance that I will do so." (Hansard, July 1, col. 149).

It is also untrue that the Leader of the House (Mr John Biffen) and "the chief parliamentary draughtsman" (myself, when not misapprehended) were baffled by the clause when subsequently shown it by Mr Rhodes James for the simple reason that he has not shown it to either of us. It is also untrue that clause 2(7) is gobbledygook. Its meaning is clear, and it deliberately defines open market value for the purposes of the Bill in terms similar to section 10(5) of the Value Added Tax Act 1983 (s.55), thus ensuring that the open market value of goods and services is the same for both purposes. A different definition for the purposes of the Bill would be most unhelpful. Yours faithfully, GEORGE ENGLE, Parliamentary Counsel Office, 36 Whitehall, SW1, July 5.

Value for money at the universities

From Professor F. G. B. Millar, FBA Sir, I wonder if your readers are fully aware of the current situation of the universities? The letter issued to the Universities by the University Grants Committee on May 9 states the UGC's working hypothesis that the overall resources available from public funds will decline by an average of 2 per cent per annum for the foreseeable future. Such a reduction, spread over 46 universities, is the approximate equivalent of the closure each year of a university the size of Southampton. The UGC's strategy "will involve an increasingly selective distribution of the research component of the grant". Each university is therefore asked to provide (in not more than six pages) its overall research plans and a "research profile" of each subject area.

To put it in common language, we are asked to advertise ourselves to the UGC as effectively as possible; if we are successful in this, we will get more money, and our colleagues in some other universities will get less. Each university inevitably feels that it cannot afford to stand aside from this degrading scramble. Collectively, they could and should now have second thoughts, and should decline to co-operate with this enquiry. For the moment, at least, distribution of declining resources on the basis of fixed proportions is the only proper choice, allowing universities to allocate resources internally as best they can, to plan (more or less) and to use their own initiative in seeking outside funds.

The UGC should withdraw its demand for submission of spurious "research profiles" if it will not the universities should unite in refusing to send them in. The UGC could then carry out a responsible review, subject by subject, with a view to possible rationalisation of resources. Yours faithfully, F. G. B. MILLAR, Brasenose College, Oxford, July 9.

From Mr R. Moss Sir, At the time of writing, early in July, the library for which I am responsible has been virtually without student readers for nearly three weeks. At least three months will elapse between their leaving and returning here. It would be unfair to regard this state of affairs as unique to this institution or to other polytechnics. In the several university libraries in which I worked over the preceding quarter-century, absence from the library for the student body would stretch to four months.

There are also at least three weeks' "vacations" at each of yours sincerely, JEAN RICHARDSON, Benisons, 38 Kings Road, Barne, Herefordshire, July 11.

Myth or medicine?

From Dr Lawrence D. Phillips Sir, It is nearly 50 years since Sigmund Freud died and psychoanalysis has developed during that period in ways that Professor Clare (July 8, 9) chooses to ignore. His critical appraisal bears as much relevance to today's practice by first-rate analysts as an evaluation of Thomas Edison's gramophone to a modern stereo system. My own experience of psychoanalysis hardly resembled Professor Clare's account. Scientific method was applied by my analyst: interpretations were based on shared data, namely, discussions, events and behaviour that occurred during the sessions, not on past memories to which only I had fallible access. Inconsistencies, contradictions, lapses of memory, slips of the tongue, all provided data for making inferences and for analysing, along with reports of dreams and associations. Many interpretations were offered as hypotheses which later behaviour, both in the analytic sessions and outside, either confirmed or rejected. An ability to see oneself as others might see one was valued, as the scientist values the ability to view the world objectively.

Dancing to rule

From Mr Richard Whitehouse Sir, Apropos John Percival's entirely apt complaints about the Royal Ballet (June 18), one basic reason for the lack of "stars" is that nearly all their leading dancers come from their school. Now schools are fine for producing a corps de ballet, but not for developing luminous personalities; the anonymity (and anonymity) making up the ideal corps is liable (when linked with an engrained national identity) to breed all the individuality out of our dancers. Nor does the recent over-indulgence in non-classical choreography assist. When young dancers get solo opportunities, therefore, they lack the opulent and expansively regal manner that was (until the past decade) always a prerequisite for anyone attempting a leading classical role at the Garden. Thirteen years ago no one confused Miss Elvyn with Miss Nerina (or Miss Fonteyn with anyone) for they came from hybrid backgrounds; few principals then were trained solely at the school; consequently each one ap-

proached an assignment from a different angle. And they complemented each other. However, since those De Valois years RB dancers have become generally more "domestic", young ladies now essaying such ballerina roles as still exist in the present repertoire, whilst their faces may differ, all lack personal focus in their performances. Completely interchangeable, they seem not to have had the coaching that might reveal each one's special qualities - are former stars (male and female) ever invited to groom young (and not-so-young) hopefuls?

What a pleasure, then, to see Miss Barbara recently (in a belated Beauty house debut) proffering the kind of effulgent Princess Aurora we took for granted in the fifties and sixties. The company is currently in an eclectic mood that ensures, whether dancing Petipa, Ashton, MacMillan, Tetley or Tom Cobleigh, they lack the truth of a home style that was once a Royal Ballet symbol. Who will bring back company identity? Yours truly, RICHARD WHITEHOUSE, The Studio, 64 Queens Gardens, W2.

From Dr David J. Bellamy Sir, In the light of so many recent reports of boogalimanism and vandalism, I hesitate to add another to the growing lists which point a finger of scorn at this country of ours. However, I feel that I must draw your readers' attention to an act of legalised destruction which can only drag the name of Britain further into the international mud. I refer to the case of Eilean na Muice Dubh, on the island of Islay, a grade I NCR site on botanical grounds and home for part of their

life cycle of the scarce Greenland white-fronted goose. Official permission has been given for the commercial mining of peat which will destroy this important international site, despite strong opposition by the official conservation bodies of Europe. It is indeed sad to have to report that the manufacturers of some of the best male whiskeys in the world and who blend the concept of a pure, natural product from a pure, natural environment in their advertising should even consider taking this course of action. Likewise, it is sad to report that Britain, which has, to date, led the

Making best use of consultants

From Mr F. D. Skidmore Sir, Your criticism of some part-time National Health Service consultants (leading article, July 8) is justified. I have now been a consultant general surgeon in Kent for five years. I have spent this time trying to deal with the following constraints which prevent me improving my service to patients:

- 1. Lack of enough operating time for myself and my registrar.
- 2. Insufficient secretarial and administrative help at ward office level to speed patient turnover and improve communication with GPs and consultant colleagues.
- 3. An average four to six-week delay for specialist X-ray and similar examinations.
- 4. Insufficient nursing staff of the right quality and experience in key jobs such as theatre scrub nurses and night nursing cover.
- 5. Administrative inefficiency in a massive bureaucracy which means that time has to be spent away from clinical duties in order to attend inconclusive committee meetings. Thus, despite great clinical efficiency from the standpoint of out-patient throughput which is much appreciated by GPs, we now have a "cold surgery" waiting list of 550 patients.

Those of us who work in the private sector are plainly shown the way to deal with these faults as we move between health service hospitals and private-sector clinics which have proper managers. After many years of DHSS experimental management I am certain that the moral authority to control our hospitals must come more parallel clinical responsibility and be vested in medical staff. The Secretary of State should propose that consultants in a given hospital district elect a chief of medical staff from amongst their number to serve for a three-year term and control all aspects of consultant practice and hospital services.

Legal outlook

From Sir David Napley Sir, The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Bar (July 6) are wrong and excessively sensitive when they believe that because someone considers the present division of the legal profession to be in need of reform he must be someone who does not admire the Bar. They may be correct in their assertion that there is value for the public in an independent specialist Bar; the implication, however, that that is a reflection of the current situation is misguided. A large proportion of those currently at the Bar chose that branch of the profession at a time when they had neither knowledge nor experience of it. In the result many of them lack the skill and special expertise essential for any true specialisation. Your correspondents next call in support, as if it were decisive, the report of the Royal Commission on Legal Services and its conclusion against fusion of the two branches. They do not, however, explain why a Government which acted in a manner diametrically opposed to the commission's recommendations in regard to the solicitors' branch should or must act in accordance with their recommendations on the Bar.

As specialist advocates your correspondents should understand the dangers of relying on one part of an expert's opinion when other parts have been treated as discredited by the arbitrating tribunal. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Bar might be thought by some as attributing to the Law Society views which it does not necessarily entertain, particularly in the light of its recent announcement in relation to rights of audience. Yours faithfully, DAVID NAPLEY, 107-115 Long Acre, WC2, July 10.

Staying on

From Sir Russell Johnston, MP for Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber (Liberal) Sir, I was astonished to read in *The Times* this morning that I was not standing at the next election. There is not a shred or tatter of truth in this. Nor have I the faintest idea what could have put such a notion into the head of your Lobby Correspondent. Perhaps it was a market research exercise to discover how many Liberals read *The Times*, judging from my telephone it is still quite a number. Yours faithfully, RUSSELL JOHNSTON, House of Commons, July 10.

Geese in peril

From Dr David J. Bellamy Sir, In the light of so many recent reports of boogalimanism and vandalism, I hesitate to add another to the growing lists which point a finger of scorn at this country of ours. However, I feel that I must draw your readers' attention to an act of legalised destruction which can only drag the name of Britain further into the international mud. I refer to the case of Eilean na Muice Dubh, on the island of Islay, a grade I NCR site on botanical grounds and home for part of their

Jelly in rats



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837-1234

ROWS ON THE RATES

"A powerful and dangerous weapon of propaganda": how many times recently has that phrase been used to warn about the marriage of municipal socialism and the advertising agent's arts. We have seen the consumption across billboards and full-page newspaper displays, in town hall handout and doorstep free-sheet. Public money has poured into a new type of council publicity. Ratepayers' funds have been spent to fulfil New Left theories of popular mobilization. And local government law has permitted it. Despite recent tests in the courts, the law is unclear where councils' powers to inform end, and unacceptable partisan persuasion begins.

Why then has the Government not moved swiftly to clarify those open sections of the 1972 Local Government Act - 137 and 142 - which apparently empower political advertising and persuasion by councils? To answer that the main offender, the Greater London Council, is shortly to disappear is to duck the issue. The Government has, in fact, done what Mrs Thatcher on taking office so commendably vowed she would not do when confronted with a problem of public policy: set up a committee of inquiry. It is no disrespect to the committee, led by Mr David Widdicombe QC, to observe that however much interesting survey material they produce, central issues will be the same after their report.

The Government's procrastination is understandable, however. For what demands discussion is not just the surface issue of whether the GLC or Sheffield can legally spend money in advertising their objections to central Government policy; it is whether, within the State, there should be political, even ideological competition between centre and periphery, or rather between the centre and the major urban areas. That phrase, "a powerful weapon of propaganda", was not coined with reference to GLC hoardings but as a description of the Central Office of Information. It was coined by a Conservative minister, motivated by the fear that post-war British governments had in their grasp a powerful machinery of "public relations" that might be used to do much more than inform the populace about road safety.

There are of course rules which are supposed to prevent government press officers and publicists appearing partisan (which doubtless gives rise to the continuous complaint of ministers about inadequate presentation of their policies). There ought to be similar rules locally, and Mr Widdicombe will perhaps advise on their construction. But he should distinguish carefully between the proposition that councils should not be persuading and advocating, and the convention that certain

political media such as hoardings paid for on the rates should be strictly controlled. Mr Widdicombe has been commissioned to report on council advertising and publicity by the month's end and will then proceed to a wide examination of how far municipal life has become "politicized". If Mr Widdicombe is wise, he will preface all his remarks to ministers with the reminder that the dire need for financial reform of local government halts progress on all other fronts. Until local taxation makes visible who pays for what and whose income is being redistributed to whom; until the local franchise is disciplined by a reduction in central grants, then local politics is vitiated.

And the Government should be told that the regeneration of the local political process not its extirpation must be the aim of reform. Received wisdom - certainly much of the evidence presented to Widdicombe from local authority employees - says there has come to be too much partisanship, too much party politics in the town and county halls. Such wisdom is dangerous. It often means: let the professional officers, the architects, surveyors, social workers, educators decide on both the amount and allocation of tax-raised money. Politics is about raising and distributing collective resources. Since 1979 the Government has attempted to reduce - without signal success - the resource available; it has succeeded in making much more visible the cost of council policy. It has, deliberately or not, made local politics more exciting, more vital.

In its reform of the rates, in any legislation that follows the Widdicombe inquiry, ministers should have a single object: strengthening locally the politics of public choice. The essence of local government is political education. Let the locals choose their own managers, councilors-in-bed with municipal trade unions. The task of reform is to ensure that the consequences of bad choice are visited on those locals, while we all profit from the example.

There are some who say that the likely recommendations from Widdicombe about the conduct of local politics will be more important for the future of local government in Britain than Mrs Thatcher's projected reform of the rates. Perhaps. But the importance of this committee of inquiry will lie outside any practical proposals on, say, the duties of officers or the conflict of interest where officers are themselves councilors. Widdicombe will inevitably present its ministerial readers with a hard choice. Should municipal dissent be tolerated on the grounds - that experience of local, sometimes even extreme politics, helps citizens to learn to take the right course in national affairs? If so, how far?

BOTHA'S BLUDGEON

In dealing with black dissent, the South African Government has never hesitated to use the full force of its security laws. Indeed, one of the main conclusions reached this month by a team of South African academics who have just spent four years analysing South African society is that the country's security laws, designed in theory to protect the security of the State, in practice are employed largely to crush opponents of the Government's racial policies. In a report prepared for a Government-funded think-tank, the Human Sciences Research Council, the academics warn that the secret and often uncontrolled way in which the security laws are used means that the security legislation itself poses a threat to the security of the state.

It is in this context that two treason trials, the most important trials in South Africa in a quarter of a century are currently under way. The accused are prominent anti-apartheid campaigners. Most of them are members of the United Democratic Front, a loose coalition of trades unions, student groups, churches and other organizations opposed to the country's racial laws. Their crime, according to the Government, is that they have supported revolutionary groups whose objective is to overthrow white rule. In reality, says Mr Botha's Government, the United Democratic Front is no more than a front for the outlawed African National Congress and the South African Communist Party.

In much the same way as the academics describe in their report the clear purpose of the Government in staging the trials is to cripple the leadership of the UDF. In the Government's view there are good reasons for such tactics. The UDF is the one major black political organization which has rallied effective opposition against the Government, notably over the new constitution which excludes blacks from political representation. By picking off the UDF leadership the Government hopes to intimidate the rank and file and create a stable political climate in which reforms on the Government's terms can proceed at an orderly pace.

As with much other Government thinking, there are serious flaws here. In the present turbulent climate in South Africa it is unlikely that reprisals against UDF leaders will dampen down black unrest. Black grievances are too deeply rooted to be dealt with in this manner. Moreover, by removing the existing UDF leadership, the Government may simply be opening the way for more radical elements to take over. Most serious of all, the Government's task of finding credible black leaders to join its proposed national forum is made even more difficult.

If the South African conflict is ever to be resolved through negotiations rather than through violence then at some stage the Government will have to sit down with black leaders whom otherwise it would prefer to imprison. The old reflex action of banning, harassment and jail is no longer a remedy.

our in and

has traditionally "looked been" and a suspicion that is being taken for a ride. It is a razzmatazz - the night carnivals and fun-buses - the Livingstone years; it is a welcome if it can enliven the bleak landscape, but at the next it is a waste of money when the vandalized billboards and routing frames of the GLC are replaced.

h, they know, on one level, an appalling housing crisis. It is not rid themselves of it. It is not that Labour exploits the m, leaving the housing finance system in a hopeless, incompetent mess, for as one advantage.

prevailing attitude among is to write off the inner cities as loss electorally; they say, but fortunately shrinking sides. The "pay-roll vote" - an areas the local council is the employer - has, they believe, sent up for Labour. Councils, increasing participation in Party affairs of activists in public sector unions and in the networks of grand-dependent organizations has meant Party organization of and is formidable.

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COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE July 13: The Prince Andrew today attended Founders' Day at Parkbourne College...

opening of the "Live Aid" televised concert at Wembley Stadium. Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and Mr David Roycroft were in attendance.

Forthcoming marriages

Captain P. H. Cyna and Miss N. A. Chappier The engagement is announced between Paul Henri, second son of Rev Cyna and the Hon Gordon Palmer...

Mr M. W. J. Reynolds and Miss J. S. Blackwell The marriage took place on Saturday at St Mary's, Stoke D'Abernon...

Softly, softly towards Rome

Clifford Longley

There are good reasons for suspecting that the present flow of members of the Church of England into the Roman Catholic Church is more substantial than has been publicly acknowledged so far...

Both Mr Brown and Dr Kemp were referring to the Anglo-Catholic part of the Church of England. The tendency they are describing has long since been predicted...

In essence, individuals who leave the Church of England are expressing their feeling that the level of satisfaction they get from Anglican membership is not sufficient to sustain their spiritual life...

England should respond to Dr Runcie's admonitions, for his diagnosis was not exactly new. The battle over the ordination of women will go on indefinitely...

The evidence is almost all "soft" evidence, although there are highly placed sources in both churches who have rather more concrete information...

However not all the evidence relates to Anglo-Catholics of this very distinctive kind. Disillusionment with the Church of England's present condition is more widespread...

Anglicans who become Catholics have never had a particularly warm welcome; and that although now the reasons are different...

It would not be surprising, therefore, if Anglicans presently knocking on Catholic doors are politely invited to think twice before they leap...

OBITUARY

LORD STRATHCLYDE Expert on Scottish affairs

Lord Strathclyde, a former Minister of State in the Scottish Office and later Chairman of the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board...



Whereas in the past he had stoutly defended individuals against the arbitrary use of power by state bodies, he now found himself in a somewhat different position...

He was honoured with the Freedom of Dingwall in 1965, and a year later of Aberdeen. He played a conspicuous part in the Scottish political scene...

When war broke out he joined the staff of Scottish Naval Command and also spent time in Washington doing valuable work as No 2 in the British Admiralty delegation...

He was honoured with the Freedom of Dingwall in 1965, and a year later of Aberdeen. He played a conspicuous part in the Scottish political scene...

Service luncheons

The Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's) Officers of the Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's) held a luncheon at the Garrison Hotel...

Service reception

The annual Corps Week of the Royal Corps of Transport ended with an At Home at Buller Barracks...

MR DENIS COWLEY

Mr Denis Marin Cowley, QC, died in Castletown, Isle of Man, on June 28 at the age of 66. He had been a Recorder of the Crown Court since 1974...

Parliament this week

Tomorrow (July 15) Transport Bill, continued; three days. Thursday (July 16) Sports Events Committee, continued...

Progress of legislation

Mr Robert Curran's Bill read the third time. Local Government (Scotland) Bill read the second time...

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Air Force CAPTAINS: R N Blair, 40th Squadron, July 15. CAPTAIN: R N Blair, 40th Squadron, July 15...

Science report

The discovery of a new class of compound that could provide the most potent pain killers ever found is reported in the current issue of Nature...

Science report

In a review of this work, Dr Leslie Iversen, formerly a director of the Medical Research Council's neuro-chemical unit at Cambridge...



Sir Michael Tippett, the composer visiting the open-air Herod Atticus Theatre in Athens where this week the Royal Opera is to present two performances of Tippett's King Priam as part of the Athens Festival...

Ardingly College

Summer Term ends today with Commemoration Day. Mr M. R. Toynbee, chairman of the council and High Sheriff of East Sussex, is presenting the prizes.

Cheltenham College Junior School

The President and Council of Cheltenham College announce the appointment of Mr David Cassell, Headmaster of St Michael's, Taunton...

Harrow School

Summer Term ended on July 12. Mr M. G. Balme retires from Newlands and Mr M. C. Greenstock succeeds him as house master...

Christening

The infant son of the Hon Robert and Mrs Orr-Ewing was christened William Robert in the Crypt Chapel, House of Lords, on Friday, July 12...

St James's and the Abbey West Malvern

The Council of St James's and the Abbey has appointed Miss Elizabeth Hallinger to be headmistress from January 1986...

Service reunion

The Queen's Regiment The Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier G. C. Millman, presided over the Queen's Regiment's annual grand reunion held at Basingstoke Barracks yesterday.

Reception

Lord Houghton of Sowerby was the host at an afternoon reception given at the House of Commons on Saturday for the Greek Animal Welfare Fund...

Birthdays today

Professor Sir James Ball, 52; Mr Julian Bream, 52; Sir Douglas Bask, 79; Lord Buxton of Ass, 67...

City of Norwich School

The seventy-fifth anniversary dinner of the City of Norwich School will be held at the school on Saturday, August 31...

Latest wills

Mr Ivan Oswald Chance, of Narberth, Dyfed, formerly chairman of Christ's International, the auctioneer, left estate valued at £2,973,026 net.

Actuaries' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Actuaries' Company for the ensuing year: Mr W. P. MacLagan, Upper Warden; Mr E. R. Haight, Senior Warden...

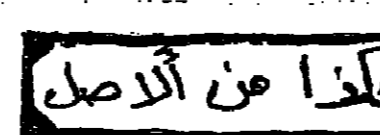
Gardeners' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Gardeners' Company for the ensuing year: Mr W. P. MacLagan, Upper Warden; Mr E. R. Haight, Senior Warden...

SOOTHEBY'S FOUNDED 1744 THIS WEEK'S SALES AT SOTHEBY'S. Table listing various art and antique items for sale, including Chinese Export Porcelain, English and Foreign Coins, and various paintings.

Science report: A new generation of pain killers. By Pearce Wright, Science Editor. The discovery of a new class of compound that could provide the most potent pain killers ever found is reported in the current issue of Nature...

Latest appointments: Mr Robert Chrounell to be Chief Crown Prosecutor for Herefordshire and Bedfordshire. Mr R. Wilson Adam, of Poble, Mr J. H. Wilson, of Southwick, Sussex, Vice-Admiral E. R. Saverin, Richard Saverin, of London, to be members of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution's management committee.



Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E. Includes sections for BUILDING AND ROADS, ELECTRICALS, INDUSTRIALS A-D, and RETAIL.

Weekly Dividend table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Total. Includes a note: Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £40,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

SHORTS (Under Five Years) table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

UNDATED table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

INDEX-LINKED table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

BREWERIES table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

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ELECTRICALS table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

DRAPERY AND STORES table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

CINEMAS AND TV table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

HOTELS AND CATERERS table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

INDUSTRIALS A-D table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

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INSURANCE table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

OVERSEAS TRADERS table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTISING table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

PROPERTY table with columns: Stock, Price Last Friday, Change in Price, Gross Dividend, Dividend % P.E.

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ELECTRICALS

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Three objections to the SDP's fusion policy

Assuming that he can fight off the embarrassingly bad idea of a resident's tax, Mr Nigel Lawson's green paper on personal taxation (promised this year) is likely to be the Government's last big gesture towards tax reform.

Believing as he does in the beneficial effects of competition, Mr Lawson should welcome the Social Democrats' (very green) tax plans published today. These make a kind of sweep over the tax terrain, including some exceedingly ambitious ideas for the treatment of savings, but focus in most detail on income tax.

The SDP favours complete fusion of income tax and employees' National Insurance. Mr Lawson seems already to have ruled this out. This reflects his boss's affection for "contributory" social security - even though every recent amendment to the benefits system has eroded this dubious principle further.

Work test

There are three real but surmountable objections to fusion. The first is that while the benefits system is no-longer contributory, in the real sense of relating what you pay to what you get, eligibility for benefits does depend on a rudimentary National Insurance record. Some other test would have to be devised, otherwise, for example, every single person not actually in work would roll up for unemployment benefit. The SDP green paper talks vaguely on a "work test", every single person not actually in work would roll up for unemployment benefit. The SDP green paper talks vaguely of a "work test", but the problem is a bit more complex than that. It can, however, be managed.

The second difficulty is that it would increase the tax paid by those not in work. Introducing a standard 39 per cent basic tax rate (the combination of present income tax and National Insurance) would place quite a heavy burden on some not very rich people. The SDP attempts to duck this problem by mistakenly suggesting that pensioners should be exempt from the higher burden.

The precise purpose of fusing the two systems is to reduce the present tax surcharge on earnings. There is no reason why all those with some kind of income should not share the burden of supporting the sick and destitute. It may well make sense to cushion the blow to the retired by raising their tax thresholds, but it does not make sense to exempt them all.

The third difficulty, discussed much more intelligently in the SDP green paper, concerns this new tax threshold. At present, while you pay income tax only on that part of your income which is above the lower limit, one step across the lower limit for National Insurance renders you liable to pay it on all your earnings. This "trigger" system, Mr Lawson believes, is an advantage because it provides a cost-effective way of helping the lowest-paid. Raising the lower limit on National Insurance helps only those below the new limit - the rest pay as much as they did before.

Trigger system

This, however, is his mistake. For the trigger system creates a huge marginal tax rate at the entry point to National Insurance - Mr Lawson's attempts to smooth this out in the last Budget were well-intentioned, but unfortunately created a variety of new pressure points.

However, it remains true that the structure of income tax does not provide a cost-effective way of helping the lower-paid. Significantly, the SDP endorses the Government's present faith in higher income tax thresholds rather than lower income tax rates, which do very little for those just in the tax net. Even so, an increase in thresholds is costly because it gives all taxpayers - in hard cash, it gives most to those on the highest incomes. For example, the single person's allowance was raised in the Budget from £2,005 to

£2,205; its value to the standard rate taxpayer went up from £602 to £662. To the highest-rate taxpayer, its value went up from £1,204 to £1,324.

Were National Insurance to be fused with income tax, the combined system would have to use a threshold, not a trigger. This would mean a substantial loss of National Insurance revenue, which in turn would mean a lower joint threshold than today's threshold for income tax. (The SDP, rather optimistically, calculates the threshold would have to drop by 5.5 per cent, roughly £110 a year for a single man). Since it would simultaneously become even more expensive to raise the threshold, fusion might seem to fossilize the tax structure.

Here the SDP has a smart answer, which is to change the nature of tax allowances, so that they provide a fixed reduction not in taxable income but in tax bills. This is equivalent to taxing all income, then cutting the bill by the same sum for everybody in a particular category: for example, in today's figures, a maximum of £662 for all single people.

The SDP has less-founded objections to the Chancellor's proposal to introduce single transferable tax allowances. There is, at least, agreement on the problem. The present system gives a gross advantage to couples who can both go out to work (and receive roughly two-and-a-half single tax allowances) compared with those of whom one stays at home (receiving only one-and-a-half allowances). The SDP proposes giving couples a single allowance each - the Chancellor proposes giving them a pair of single allowances, which each could transfer to the other.

Single unit

This takes us right to the core of the argument over whether married couples should be treated as two unconnected individuals, or whether they should be viewed by the taxman as a single unit. The individual route is appealing particularly to women who have endured so many generations of financial subservience (the Inland Revenue still seems to have extreme difficulty in beginning a letter other than "Dear Sir"). It is a route which has led, on the one hand, to payment of tax-free child benefits to mothers, and on the other, to separate assessment for high-earning couples.

Unfortunately, it is an approach that has its limits. For it is still generally accepted that families have to be treated as a unit for social security, and the closer the two systems are brought to fusion the greater the difficulties in squeezing conflicting principles into a coherent framework. At the other end of the income scale, it is generally agreed that separate assessment for unearned income opens up too many opportunities for tax dodging. The SDP, which plumps for the separate route, finds itself in such difficulties at this point that it ends up proposing the thoroughly uneasy compromise that only the first £500 of unearned income should be separately assessed.

The Chancellor, implicitly, is proposing to go in treating the married couple as a single tax unit. The SDP points out that his proposals for transferable allowances would in practice result in a sharp cut in take-home pay for men whose wives had been at home but then decided to go out to work. But the other side of this coin is the help transferable allowances would provide for women who stop work to start a family, by permitting them to shift the tax allowance previously set against their earnings to the family's remaining source of income. The transferable tax allowance would also provide for a £1,150 increase in the tax threshold faced by the married man supporting a family on the dole, which would have a far more substantial impact on the "unemployment trap" than the dribs and drabs of increases that can be afforded by the Chancellor each spring.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

Bank may impose MLR again to force cut in base rates

By Our Financial Staff

The Bank of England is anxious to protect its already tarnished image from further damage by re-establishing its authority over short-term interest rates in the City this week. It cut its dealing rates by half a point last Thursday in an effort to nudge the clearing banks into a cut in their base rates, but the leading banks failed to respond to this or to further hints on Friday, reasoning that market interest rates and the lack of liquidity did not point to a cut.

Unless the clearing banks relent by cutting rates from 12.5 to 12 per cent early this week, the Bank may decide temporarily to announce its own minimum lending rate of 12 per cent. It last took this step in January, when it raised interest rates to 12 per cent as a gesture to help to halt the slide of sterling.

Now the Treasury is anxious to halt the sharp rise of sterling occasioned by the weakness of the dollar, and particularly to moderate the rise of the pound against continental currencies, which has a more direct effect on the competitiveness of British goods. The falling dollar rate is also damaging to government revenue when the dollar price of oil is under renewed downward pressure.

The Bank's hand may have been strengthened over the weekend by further small cuts in interest rates in Hong Kong and Singapore and a vague prediction from Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the West German

finance minister, that West German rates will fall by half a point. Last week's hints may have been unconvincing because the Treasury is almost as anxious about excessive expansion of money supply as about the exchange rate and wanted only a single small rate cut.

The foreign exchange markets have in any case already shown that they will not react much to a half-point cut. Attention will be focused more strongly on the renewed weakness of the American economy. Added to lingering doubts over the health of President Reagan, this could knock the dollar again after its sharp fall last week.

Mr Christopher Johnson, Burton's financial advisers, S. G. Warburg, the merchant bank, confirmed yesterday that discussions were held with the Debenhams camp towards the end of last week.

There was no comment on reports that a figure of around 400p was put forward to secure

Lloyds Bank's economic adviser, says that a US recession and a sharp dollar fall are needed if the American trade deficit is to be eliminated.

Mr Johnson, writing in the bank's international financial outlook, says that the deficit, which is likely to be \$140 billion this year, will be eliminated over the next five years only if the American economy goes into recession and the dollar falls by 40 per cent.

National Savings remained on course to meet its annual funding target of £3 billion by attracting a net inflow of £250.8 million during June. The result was helped by a dramatic improvement in the contribution to funding of index linked "granny" bonds

Secret move for Lloyd's rescue of names

By Allison Eadie

Leading figures at the Lloyd's insurance market are exerting pressure on the Lloyd's authorities behind the scene to stage some sort of rescue for names in the former PCW syndicates.

They believe it is vital to clear the matter up so that Lloyd's can attempt to attract new names to take advantage of better trading opportunities. Lloyd's has so far refused to consider a market rescue for names, who face losses of £130 million. Mr Peter Miller, Lloyd's chairman, told the annual meeting last month there could be no financial lifeline.

Several important underwriting figures are, however, concerned at Lloyd's uncooperative stance, because it is unfair to the names and because of the long-term damage it could do to Lloyd's business. They are not willing to express their view publicly, because they are worried that a public confrontation might force Lloyd's into taking a harder line.

It would be difficult for Lloyd's now to back a form of market rescue without some loss of face. It would also be difficult to come up with an equitable formula, as a market rescue would involve all names shouldering some of the PCW losses at a time when many others have been hit by bad trading results.

Names on the former PCW syndicates - now renamed Richard Beckett - are victims of both a £40 million fraud and bad underwriting. They have been advised by a steering committee of names not to meet their losses by the July 31 deadline.

Further advice is expected this week from the names' solicitors, Ashurst Morris Crisp, on whether names should pass Lloyd's solvency test and so continue as underwriters.

Those who favour a market solution believe names should meet a substantial proportion of their losses, but be insured against any future deterioration of the losses.

THF considers the next step

Trusthouse Forte's lawyers are considering what steps to take after an offer to buy a crucial block of shares in the Savoy hotel group was turned down by the owner, the Savoy Educational Trust. The deal would have given THF control of the Savoy.

Mr Donald Durban, THF's deputy chief executive, said yesterday: "Our lawyers are looking at the overall situation. I can confirm we made an offer which was turned down, but for what reasons I do not know."

Burton expected to raise bid for Debenhams to £600m

By Cliff Feltham

Mr Ralph Halpern's Burton Group looks set to launch a knockout takeover bid for Debenhams this week. The odds favour Burton raising its offer for the high street stores group to just over £600 million. This implies increasing the bid to between 415p and 425p a share at the offer.

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Government set to ease planning controls

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

The Government is expected to propose big changes in planning controls this week in the hope of creating more jobs by encouraging small businesses.

A White Paper is also expected to recommend changes in other regulations to reduce such burdens on small businesses as the pay-as-you-earn system.

Possible steps forward eventually taking many more small businesses out of the net of value added tax may be outlined, too. The White Paper is the result of proposals from Lord Young of Grafton, Mrs Thatcher's Minister without Portfolio, who heads the Cabinet Office enterprise unit.

Early next week Lord Young is also expected to make proposals for tourism. There, too, the need for more realistic approaches to planning is likely to be emphasized, in addition to ideas for coordinating government policy.

One suggestion is that permission for tourism projects should be granted unless good reasons can be advanced for turning them down. There have been complaints that some local authorities, uninterested in tourism as a source of growth, arbitrarily squash projects like new hotels and tourist attractions.

The White Paper on deregulation, which is expected to be published tomorrow, a variety of planning changes are expected to be proposed subject to environmental safeguards covering noise and any other serious nuisance.

TSB Bill faces more obstacles

By Richard Thomson

The Bill to permit the Trustee Savings Bank Group's launch on the Stock Exchange next February returns to the Commons today after a bumpy ride in the Lords. The Government intends to quash two Lords amendments which fundamentally changed the shape of the original Bill.

The Scottish lobby in the Lords, led by Lord Taylor of Gort, inserted an amendment to exclude TSB Scotland from the Bill, and therefore from the flotation. Lord Taylor has, however, agreed to the amendment being quashed in the Commons in return for the TSB Group being registered in Edinburgh, and assurances from Sir John Read, TSB Group chairman, that the Scottish bank will retain its independence.

The Government also plans to abolish the Lords amendment which would put 25 per cent of the new TSB shares in trust for staff and depositors of the bank.

The Bill is facing further opposition from Scottish depositors which could halt further discussion in Parliament for the time being. Mr James Sillars, a leading Scottish Nationalist, and a group of legal experts plan to raise an action for interdict at the Edinburgh Court of Session, to freeze the Bill.

They will seek an interdict against the TSB trustees to prevent them altering the basic rules of the TSB, as well as a declaration that under Scottish law the depositors are the owners of TSB Scotland.

Euroroute consortium woos BT, GEC and BP

By Jeremy Warner

British Telecom, GEC and British Petroleum are considering whether to join the Euroroute consortium, which is proposing to build a \$5 billion bridge and tunnel link across the English Channel.

All three companies stand to gain large contracts for electro-mechanical, communications and other work if the Euroroute proposal is accepted by the British and French Governments. A decision is due to be made in January on whether to choose Euroroute's scheme or the Channel Tunnel Group's rival proposal for a £2 billion twin-bore rail tunnel.

Euroroute announced recently that Barclays Bank would be joining the Anglo-French venture. At the same time it revealed that Kleinwort Benson, which left the Channel Tunnel Group last March, was being brought in as a partner and adviser, and that more partners were being sought to add credibility to the proposal and to share in the £10 million cost of putting it to the two Governments.

The winning consortium will not be obliged to put any of the project's contracts out to competitive tender if they can be handled in house, so there is a big incentive for companies to join one of the two groups if they hope to share in the work.

Potential institutional investors in the Euroroute scheme have been told that the consortium plans to finance between 10 and 20 per cent of the project's cost with equity, using bank loans for the rest.

The Channel Tunnel Group meanwhile is bringing in Midland Bank as a member, joining National Westminster, Balfour Beatty, Costain, Tarmac, Taylor Woodrow and Wimpey.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of the Stock Exchange in London

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in London

KLEINWORT, BENSON LIMITED

SHARE CAPITAL		Issued and to be issued, fully paid
Authorized 68,000,000	Shares of common stock of 1 cent par value each	51,324,921
100,000	Shares of preferred stock of \$1 par value each - Series A, \$60 Cumulative Convertible Preferred Stock	8,150

Application has been made to the Council of the Stock Exchange in London for certain of the shares of common stock of the Company to be admitted to the Official List. The shares of common stock have not been and are not being registered under federal, state or provincial securities laws of the United States of America or Canada and application for admission to the Official List in London will not be made for those shares registered in the names of persons resident in those countries.

Listing particulars relating to the Company are available in the Extel Statistical Services and copies may be obtained during normal business hours up to and including 17th July 1985 from the Company Announcements Office of the Stock Exchange in London and up to and including 8th August 1985 from:

- Kleinwort, Benson Limited
- W. Greenwell & Co.
- Henderson Crosthwaite & Co.
- 20 Fenchurch Street
- Bow Balls House
- 194/200 Bishopsgate
- London EC3
- Broad Street
- London EC4

15th July 1985

Maxwell Newton

New threat to London tin trading

By Michael Prest

Inter, the computer commodity exchange based in Bermuda, has taken advantage of the dissatisfaction over the London Metal Exchange's handling of the recent tin squeeze by writing to Mr Paul Leong, Malaysia's primary industries minister, with an offer to start trading a tin contract.

The move comes hard on the heels of Mr Leong's own invitation to other producer members of the International Tin Council, the body governing the International Tin Agreement, to trade tin on the Kuala Lumpur exchange.

Tin producers are cross with the LME for limiting the losses of those who sold short for delivery at the end of last month. The price soared to produce a backwordation - a premium of the cash over the futures price - of more than £300 a tonne as immediate supplies of tin were squeezed. The LME limited the backwordation to £90.

At the moment the Kuala Lumpur Tin Market consists mainly of Malaysian dealers and requires floor members to smelt their tin in Malaysia.

Dollar shortage foxes bond market

WALL STREET WIRE

The last two months have seen a severe test of the validity of the old monetarist theory, which states that the rate of growth of nominal GNP is influenced by the rate of growth of Money. This is the theory that still dominates thinking in Wall Street.

It is the theory that lies behind the "revolt of the financial markets" - whereby the bond markets always mark down bond prices on news of what is perceived as excessive monetary growth. The bond markets do this because 15 years of bitter experience up to 1981 taught them that excessive monetary growth will eventually lead to a loss of value in bonds.

Since October last year, the Federal Reserve has been promoting very strong money growth in an attempt to avoid zero or even negative economic growth.

The orthodox Wall Street analysts have said that this will lead to a new surge of economic growth. The publication of the "flash" GNP number for the second quarter of this year seemed to give some credence to this theory. The effect was to stop the bond rally in its tracks. The

September T-bond contract, which had risen from 68 to 79 between March and June, fell back to 77.

During the two months ended July 1, there was a huge increase in money M1. In the two months ended May 6, money M1 rose \$4.8 billion. But in the next two months, ended July 1, it rose \$18 billion.

This was taken by the bond markets as a significant threat to bond prices and the bond markets cut the prices of bonds.

What the bond markets did not believe was that in the face of such massive increases in the money supply, there would be a reduction in important spending aggregates. Yet this is exactly what happened.

In June, retail sales fell a large 0.9 per cent, after a fall of 0.5 per cent in May.

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ORDINARY SHARES

Printers face new problems



Michael Hunter: showing a competitive edge

The remarkable rise in the pound last week could not have come at a better time for the British printing industry. More than half the paper used in this country is imported, and the pound's strength will help to cut costs just as printers are beginning to suffer a worrying squeeze on profitability...

However, currency movements in the printing trade are, as for most of us, a two-edged sword. One reason for the surge in sterling is the high level of interest rates which have been prevailing in Britain this year...

double the number which had expected they would have to do so. That pressure is being released principally through redundancies. Only a fifth of the companies in the survey expected to recruit more workers...

The dominant force in the industry is BPC, whose fortunes have been transformed since it was rescued by Mr Robert Maxwell in 1981. The industry's difficulties were masked in BPC's 1984 results by a huge increase in property profits...

degree on the successful transfer of the Mirror Group Newspapers' printing work to BPC through its British Newspaper Printing Corporation subsidiary. This is due to begin in January as a prelude to full colour printing for the Mirror titles next July.

That exercise is clearly fraught with potential union difficulties, but if they can be overcome it will add £100 million a year to BPC's turnover at present prices, an increase of 37 per cent.

Meanwhile, however, it is hard to disagree with Grievson's view that the main attraction of BPC shares is their yield of 9.6 per cent.

Another printer in a state of transition is McCorquodale, which has prospered from occupying a well-defined and hitherto fast-growing niche: cheque printing.

and Sons. Causton held the lucrative contracts for British Airways' High Life magazine and the National Westminster Bank customer giveaway through its Headway Publications subsidiary.

The effect of this has been to treble turnover and take profits from £100,000 in 1981/2 to an expected £2.2 million for the year to March.

However, the shares have relapsed from 138p to 103p this year in expectation of the inevitable period of digestion which will be needed to stitch newly attached limbs into a coherent whole.

HunterPrint stands out as the pick of the bunch. It has been conservatively nurtured by the chairman and biggest shareholder, Mr Michael Hunter, as demonstrated by the 3.5 times cover on the company's dividend.

Mr Hunter displayed the practical effects of this competitive edge in his latest annual report, when he reported an important new contract with IPC and a series of colour inserts for the Sunday Express magazine.

William Kay City Editor

APPOINTMENTS

New Minnet director

J. H. Minnet & Company; Mr F. L. Sanderson has joined the board. He will also become managing director of the company's marine division.

PRIVATBank: Mr Peter Dods has joined as head of the bank's international department. He becomes an associate director. Other associate directors are Mr John Green, Mr R. M. Beattie, Mr D. Bryce, Mr R. M. Caldecott, Mr D. C. N. Cockburn, Mr G. Elliott, Mr C. Fleckney, Mr I. R. L. Gordon, Mr N. T. Hamilton, Mr P. J. L. Hennessey, Miss M. V. Hill, Mr J. Kingzett, Mr T. Marakami, Mr J. D. T. Paarberg, Mr C. H. Patterson, Mr J. Poynter, Mr P. J. Rowen, Mr R. W. St John, Miss G. R. Scheek, Mr A. F. Sykes, Miss N. Thomas, Mr R. J. Thurlow and Mr P. C. Walker.

Cornhill Insurance Group; Mr Richard C. Thornton has been elected a member of the board.

McLeod Russel; Mr N. E. K. Openshaw has become group managing director.

British Manufacture & Research Company; Mr M. Fank has been appointed chairman of the board of directors upon the retirement of Mr L. R. E. Appleton. Colonel A. Martin has retired from the board.

Redfern National Glass; Mr Martin Acland has joined the board as a non-executive director. Mr Alan Illsley will be retiring from the board on July 31, as is Mr Peter G. Redfern.

TEMPUS

Gilts: why traders are right to be cautious

At the Battle of the Marne in World War I, Marshal Foch reported: "My centre is giving way, my right is in retreat; situation excellent. I shall attack." Such sentiments would find a ready echo at Number 10 but will the market tolerate this focus-Fochus?

The early part of last week was like a return to the late 70s and early 80s phase of the Thatcher regime. Sterling rocketed to \$1.40, and touched \$4 on the trade-weighted index.

The logic of this approach was underlined both by poor money supply figures and by past precedent. Plainly, with EM3 growing at an annualized rate of 23 1/2 per cent, and all the counterparts to the broad monetary aggregate expansionary, the authorities needed to make some kind of policy response.

Gilts over the some period boomed as never before. A stock like Treasury 13 1/2 per cent 1997 rose from an end-1981 price of \$4 to about 130 just about one year later.

expensive. Last week's foreign exchange euphoria failed to exchange enthusiasm. Kindly an buying enthusiasm. Early in the week, traders failed to get the stock back up to tap levels of £300.

The Bank of England arranged a system repurchase agreement and then abruptly the following day cut its intervention rates on bills twice, to signal that rate cuts were requested by the authorities.

Some gilt market analysts are now quite simply in despair. It is all very well for the authorities to claim that when EM3 gives off confusing signals, then exchange considerations dictate policy.

It seems unlikely, therefore, that the market can endorse the apparent switch in policy last week from a tight to a loose interest rate; exchange rate regime. The changes in policy, plus the new methods of calculating monetary growth rates, leave analysts with inadequate knowledge of where the funding programme is, or indeed if it exists at all.

Yet the houses plainly refused to invest this short term money in the gilts market. Since gilts barely moved over the month. Instead, the cash will have been used to buy bills and CDs, indirectly fuelling the monetary aggregates, since the Bank of England is a willing buyer of such paper.

The market can see quite clearly that such activities by the houses, and hence by the corporate sector, could be curbed very quickly. The Bank could force houses to borrow at a penal rate, which both curtail their desire for bills and also very likely bring about a more stable yield wave as the houses sold gilts.

As the Chancellor darts about the bridge, the market wonders, in its cynicism, whose hand will finish up beside Mr Lawson's on the tiller. Should the Old Lady get a grip, then the market knows roughly what to expect. A period of austerity lasting roughly into the autumn ought to be followed by good numbers and an encouraging rally in gilts.

But if the Chancellor joins hands with the CBI, the outlook is messier. Giving the CBI what it wants in terms of fiscal policy means that working out the whole fiscal monetary balance in the economy is impossible.

USM REVIEW

Trade suffers in shadow of gloomy senior market

As the Datascan USM index shows, it was another poor week last week for the secondary market which suffered alongside the main equity list. The USM marker registered a 1.76 point loss on the week, and the figure would have been worse but for one or two highlights.

Saxon Oil did much to stem the steady slippage with a 45p gain as the company announced its merger with Charterhouse Petroleum. The combined company will be worth about £188 million.

Despite share price weakness in the run-up to merger, Saxon has been one of the USM's successes. Since arriving on the lists at the end of 1981 at a price of 100p a share, the company has grown steadily and its share price appreciated to 350p, as of Friday.

The price has been as high as 500p, benefiting earlier this year from a spate of "buy" circulars from City analysts. Only a few weeks ago one leading broker was recommending Saxon as a "strong buy" at 450p.

Parkfield Group has moved firmly against the trend, the shares virtually doubling in price in the past month. On Friday they rose 7p to 101p; the market continues to enthuse about the appointment of new chairman with a new strategy.

V W Therman has also enjoyed the appearance of a new large shareholder. Mr Michael Renton, chairman of Investment Capital Group, has options relating to 15.8 per cent of the company.

V W Therman shares rose strongly in the first two weeks of July, although by the end of last week they appeared to steady in the 50p to 60p range.

In a Square Mile which is clogged with cash calls USM new issues and investments are unlikely to thrive.

But Mr Douglas is not completely full of gloom. "About four weeks ago I was beginning to get a bit anxious because the new issue pipeline still looked full. It looked as though there might be some indigestion."

So it looks like "sit it out" advice for any USM shareholders who have been frightened by events.

Bill Woolgar, the licensed dealer, is offering 22.5 million shares at 20p each in Owl Creek Investments, a British registered company which invests in oil and gas reserves in America, primarily in Colorado. Net proceeds of just over £4 million will go into more such holdings.

The offer price puts a £15.7 million value on the company which was set up last autumn.

Today brings the full details on Lewmar, the yacht and power boat equipment maker which is being brought to the lists by Phillips & Drew, the broker. Around 6 million shares will be offered for sale, with just over 3 million of them new ones to raise cash for the business.

already has nine orders for the new Americas race.

Sales promotion has suddenly become fashionable. First we had KLP coming to the USM, and now the equally tersely named FKB is placing 1.79 million shares through County Bank.

Even FKB's prospectus concedes that sales promotion tended until two years ago to be limited to the greasy, drink, tobacco, petrol and retail sectors.

Only recently has the business world at large come to realise, according to FKB's directors, that sale promotion, whether it be in the form of free offers or competition prizes, can be a cheap and accurate way of stimulating sales.

FKB itself has had a meteoric career, with turnover rising from nothing to £7.1 million in three years.

At the 140p placing price the multiple, on profits for the year to March last taxed at 35 per cent, is 22. Yield is 1.8 per cent. The prospect of rapid growth from existing and new activities makes the shares interesting.

Pam Spooner

Table with 2 columns: Bank Name and Base Lending Rate percentage.

Some strikes are good for the country.



To the people who work at Britoil a strike means just one thing. Success. Last year Britoil was involved in drilling more new wells offshore UK than anyone else and produced over 2,000 million gallons of oil.

Please send me more information about Britoil and reserve my copy of the Offer For Sale document, without obligation. Includes fields for Name, Address, Postcode, and company name Britoil.

SOON, THE REMAINING 49% OF BRITOIL SHARES ARE TO BE OFFERED FOR SALE. Issued by Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited on behalf of H.M. Government.

Kong with 11... removal... Hong 1997... world... nation... emerge... mising... m un... tion... which... itself... enterp... it is... ing the... dom's... for at... repairs... For display... embrace... the pe... chers... It go... open o... of today... which i... industr... capital... their rec... Anvo... as I did... people... Kong ar... informat... like... For H... situation... Under fe... than the... For me... business... Shanghai... Hong K... mission... homecom... parents, f... the Com... 1949, a... business... trustng... put Hon... world's... tradio... When I... at his ho... with an... gosping... that old... they nec... during all... OBE. LL... (Hon) F... FKIE, J... rarily for... promoting... acatio... member... failure... court... worldwide

CYCLING

Hinault shrugs aside his misfortune to keep lead

From John Wilcockson, Arrillaco

There is rarely a dull moment in the Tour de France even when the temperatures are in the 90s...

There is rarely a dull moment in the Tour de France even when the temperatures are in the 90s...

suggests that Hinault's Canadian team-mate Steve Bauer was more at fault...

Robert Millar, who is challenging Herrera for the King of the Mountains title...

On Saturday, Hinault crossed the line in Saint Etienne with blood streaming from a broken nose...



A distressed Hinault after his fall

RUGBY UNION

'No panic' in Britain as NZ setback

By David Hands Rugby Correspondent

The interim injunction against the New Zealand tour to South Africa...

They will await the final decision of the High Court in Wellington...

However, if Mr Justice Casey's decision on Saturday is favourable...

No managerial appointments have been made for the proposed 1986 Lions tour...

Next year's Lions will probably play in matches in South Africa...

Rugby opinion in the British Isles favours the maintenance of contact with South Africa...

Scotland have visited South Africa only once, in 1960...

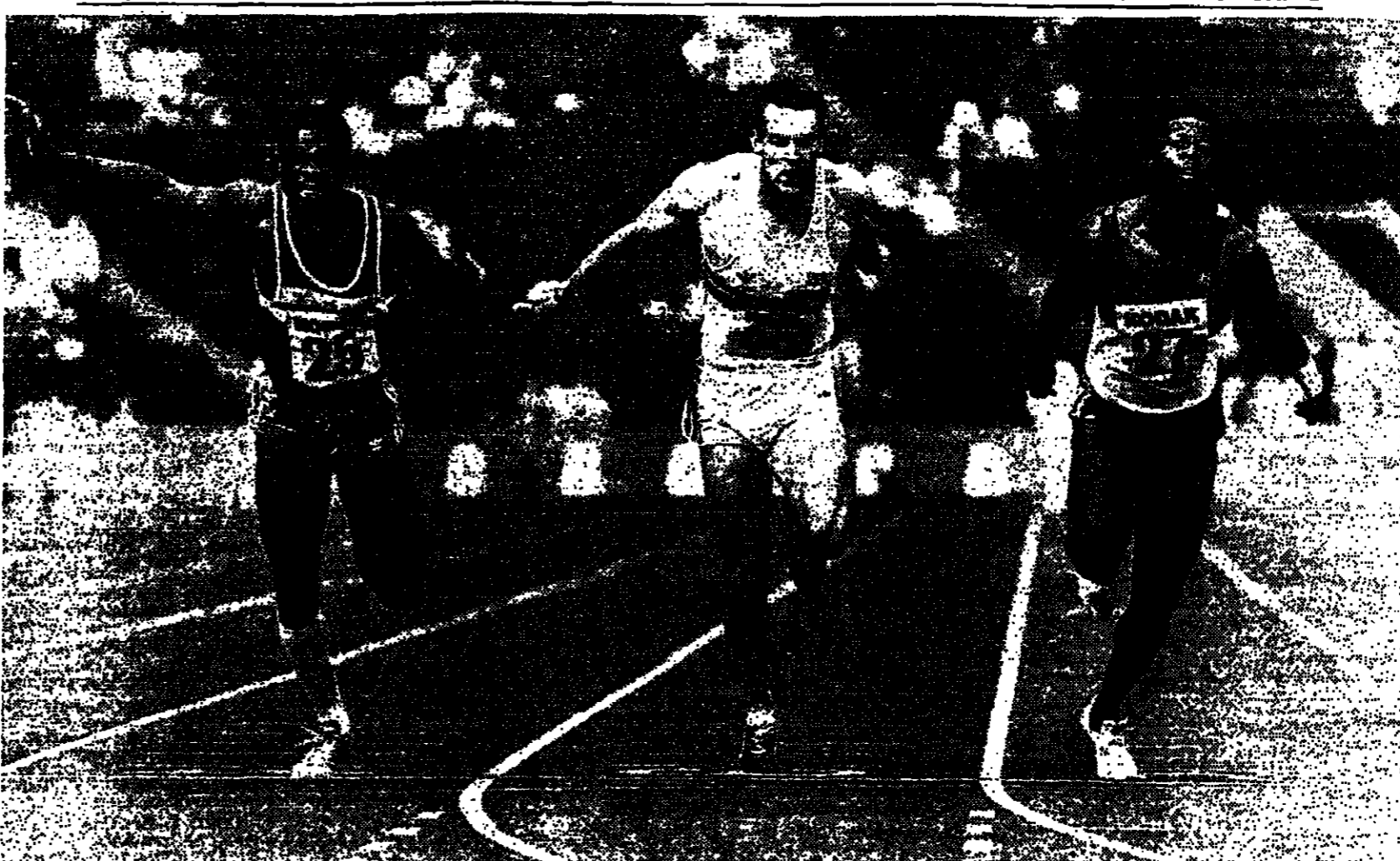
The principles which all four home rugby unions follow...

Honour for Rives Jean-Pierre Rives, captain of the French rugby union team...

There is rarely a dull moment in the Tour de France even when the temperatures are in the 90s...

There is rarely a dull moment in the Tour de France even when the temperatures are in the 90s...

ATHLETICS: ONLY TWO BRITISH TRACK TITLES IN A POOR YEAR AT THE AAA CHAMPIONSHIPS



Mafe king: Ade Mafe (left) won the 200-metres title at the AAA championships ahead of Sharp (centre) and McFarlane. Watson (not pictured) finished second (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Olympic athletes Ottley sparkles at a flat event will not be moved

(Retur) - The timing of athletics events at the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul will not be switched to suit major American television networks...

The extent to which championships are suffering from the star-strewn athletics spectacles underlined by a very low-key 103th AAAA championships...

David Ottley won the Mumm Champagne award for the best performance of the weekend...

Adrian Mafe, who has had a late start to the outdoor after what he called "the ups and down of the indoor season"...

David Lewis of Rosebush underlined his current middle-distance superiority when people like Steve Owen are not around...

Nebilo also announced the cancellation of the 1987 World Marathon Cup to Seoul...

We watched the (Los Angeles) Olympic of one, two or three o'clock in the morning in Europe...

The contract gives NBC exclusive American television rights of 17 IAAF meetings...

Finals would be held in the early and later afternoon, Nebilo said...

The 10-year-old twin daughters of the former international runner, Bruce Tulloh...

Paris (AFP) - Sergei Bubka, of the Soviet Union, who on Saturday became the first man to clear six metres...

Zola Budd made a surprise appearance at the Croydon Harriers open meeting yesterday afternoon...

MOTOR RACING Pit fire injuries overshadow Porsche victory

From Jeremy Shaw Hockenheim

Derek Bell and Hans Joachim Stuck drove their factory Rotmans Porsche 962c to a fine victory in sweltering conditions...

The Anglo-German pairing have now taken lead in the world endurance championship after five races...

The incident occurred when Jacky Ickx and Jochen Mass came in for their first routine fuel stop on lap 26...

The men's heavyweight eight was won by the Soviet Union...

RESULTS: 1, D Bell (GB) and H J Stuck (FR) Porsche 962c...

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RESULTS: 1, D Bell (GB) and H J Stuck (FR) Porsche 962c...

POLO Novaes scores just before last bell

By John Watson

Four more British Open championship polo matches were recorded over the weekend at Cowdray Park...

The BB's No 2, Silvio Novaes, of Brazil, winner of British polo's longest hit competition...

The most tense and thrilling of those, fought out on Lord Cowdray's rain-soaked River Ground...

RESULTS: 1, D Bell (GB) and H J Stuck (FR) Porsche 962c...

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SHOOTING Queen's Medal goes to tie-break

By Our Shooting Correspondent

The Gurkhas were unable to recover the unit overall championship at the army rifle meeting at Bixley last week...

In the Royal Navy and Royal Marines final, Marine Colin Humphreys became the first...

RESULTS: 1, D Bell (GB) and H J Stuck (FR) Porsche 962c...

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IN BRIEF Rider killed in weekend's second crash

Nikolas Ruch of West Germany died after he crashed his Kawasaki 600 during the Moutnich 24-hour race near Barcelona yesterday (AFP reports)...

Tony Rutter, the British rider, was still in intensive care at a Barcelona hospital after his bike skidded on oil left on the track...

RESULTS: 1, D Bell (GB) and H J Stuck (FR) Porsche 962c...

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LEADERS ON THE FLAT TRAINERS

At the end of the week...

At the end of the week...

At the end of the week...

At the end of the week...

At the end of the week...

At the end of the week...

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At the end of the week...

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At the end of the week...

RACING

Defenders no match for Helen Street

From Our Irish Correspondent, Dublin

But for the intervention of the runner-up, Alder's Best, the three English fillies would have filled the first three places in the Gilloon Stud Irish Oaks at the Curragh on Saturday...

The win was achieved with considerable authority in a slow run race. She appeared to have a lot to do early in the straight but came swiftly through to take the lead from Alder's Best...

The early running was set at a leisurely pace by Fair Of The Furze and she was joined two furlongs out by Sally Brown and Alder's Best...

It is remarkable how well the form lines associated with the 4,000 Guineas and Oaks winner Oh So Sharp are holding up...

Lord Weinstock expressed his hope that Helen Street would get the opportunity of a second race. Oh So Sharp at level weights. Unfortunately she was struck out of the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes...

Willie Carson, who partnered Helen Street, had earlier inflicted a surprise defeat on the Queen Mary Stakes runner-up, Welsh note, in the Nishapur Curragh Stakes...

Down Royal puts on its richest-ever race for fillies today, the Goffs Ulster Oaks, and Paul Doyle, who's kept the Faith finished sixth to Helen Street on Saturday, could well achieve almost instant compensation...

Also racing 11-4 Betty Brown (4-1), 15-2 Fair Of The Furze (15-1), 15-10 Fair Of The Furze (15-1), 15-10 Fair Of The Furze (15-1)...

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RACING: OH SO SHARP HAS FINAL PREPARATION FOR ASCOT ON SATURDAY

Million within Cecil's grasp



Oh So Sharp will have her final gallop before attempting to become the first three-year-old filly to capture the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes since Pinesse in 1976.

Ascot form points to Leadburn in Trophy

By Mandarin

The Guy Harwood-trained Leadburn, who failed to capture Royal Ascot's Bessborough Handicap last month, is on a retrieving mission at Ascot today when this likely four-year-old looks the likely winner of the Tennent Trophy.

Leadburn, a well-backed favourite for the Bessborough, just failed to capture the cup last month, is on a retrieving mission at Ascot today when this likely four-year-old looks the likely winner of the Tennent Trophy.

Petoski, who takes his chance in Ascot's King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes

Supreme Leader (Philip Robinson) could finish only eighth of 11 behind Connaught in Arms in the £19,200 Prix Miesidor (1m) at Maisson-Laffitte on Saturday.

Supreme Leader deposed

The Derby. Redwood, runner-up to Capricorn Belle at Newmarket last time, finished well and only missed third place by a nose.

AYR

Racing schedule for Ayr including 'Going: good', 'Draw advantage: 5f-6f, high numbers best; 7f-1m, low', and various race listings.

LEICESTER

Racing schedule for Leicester including 'Going: good to firm', 'Draw advantage: 5f, low numbers best', and various race listings.

Ayr selections

- 3.30 Cobra Heart, 3.0 Balmerino, 3.30 Leadburn, 4.0 FRAULEIN TOBIN (nap), 4.30 Dippy Bach, 5.0 Bloachain Skolar.

Leicester selections

- 2.15 Hannah Reed, 2.45 Life Peer, 3.15 Dhiistan, 3.45 Tenor Thought, 4.15 Russian Ribbon, 4.45 Daring Display.

WINDSOR

Racing schedule for Windsor including 'Going: good to firm', 'Draw advantage: 5f-6f, high numbers best', and various race listings.

Law Report July 15 1985 House of Lords

Referential bid is invalid in sealed bidding sale

Harvela Investments Ltd v Royal Trust Company of Canada (CT) Ltd and Others. Before Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Diplock, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Templeman. [Speeches said July 11].

Councils failed in student grant duty

Regina v Hertfordshire County Council, Ex parte Cheung. Regina v Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council, Ex parte Paul. Before Mr Justice McNeill. [Judgment delivered July 5].

Foster parents not agents of council

Regina v Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council. Before Mr Justice McNeill. [Judgment delivered July 5].

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Trade 01-278 9161/5

Directors Secretary/PA A Prestige Role

Hold a key role with a well respected and established Lloyds insurance broker...

Probably 25-35, you are now working as a senior secretary and your skills include shorthand...

Cripps, Sears

- Director's PA c.£11,000... Use Your Language! £8,000-£9,500... Conferences c.£9,000... Graduate £8,000... Public Relations £8,000...

Our top temporaries are earning £11,000 pa. (for a full working week)

Skills 100/60 plus WP experience. Central London. For more information contact Victoria Martin now on 01-499 9175.

MacBlain Temporary Secretaries



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Have you got a degree plus a couple of years secretarial experience? If so, this major City Merchant Bank is looking for graduate secretaries...

FLOATING SECRETARY

If you enjoy the variety and challenge of a new job every day or week, we have a unique opportunity for you...

Hello, Hong Kong

An excellent admin/PA position for an individual in the City office of one of London's premier estate agencies...

MOVE INTO PERSONNEL

The busy Personnel Director of this leading City bank requires a well presented assistant to organise his hectic work schedule...

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY

One of the partners in this large City firm is looking for a secretary to organise him and two of his colleagues...

SECRETARY

SHAC The London housing aid centre, requires a secretary. SHAC is a charity which provides housing advice...

BOYCE BI-LINGUAL

Der Direktor eines westlich belarischen Unternehmens sucht eine Sekretärin mit Deutschkenntnissen in Wort und Schrift...

PA to the DIRECTOR

The Director of a leading National Charity needs a "maternity relief" P.A. (possibility of permanent position).

PREFER AUDIO?

Director of Property Development and Management Co needs a PA who can take dictation and has excellent typing skills.

OVERSEAS CONTACT

International florist at MD level with excellent managerial and administrative skills. Secretary able to assume responsibility where needed.

DISCREET PA

Share actively in the success of these international businesses as a PA. Salary £9,500 + 2 distinguished Directors. Savour fine and state of the art facilities.

MIDDLETON

RECRUITMENT TO THE COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY. An exciting opportunity for a well educated individual with a strong background in the field of communications.

AN AVID INTEREST

In Office Technology. Can you complement our dynamic team to help us manage our growing organisation? You will have responsible secretarial and organisational skills...

Temporary Secretaries

Does your job match up to your expectations? Being in a job where you are really happy is a matter of luck. Usually...

MANPOWER Tel: 225 0505. 24 hour answering service

PARTNERS SECRETARY £5500 NEG + PERKS HOLBORN. Excellent all-round Audio Secretary required for well known firm of Chartered Accountants...

GRAFTER £12,250. PA/Secretary self motivated lively mature person, not afraid of hard work for an exciting and challenging position with a very busy company in N.1.

PA to the DIRECTOR. The Director of a leading National Charity needs a "maternity relief" P.A. (possibility of permanent position).

COME IN AND SEE US. Tonight we would like to invite you to come in and see us in our offices. We will be holding an open evening between 5 pm and 6.30 pm...

SECRETARY/WORD PROCESSOR. West End Firm of Solicitors. Require excellent audio/secretary with sense of humour, knowledge of company law and preferably with Xerox word processing experience for 6 months...

MIDDLETON. RECRUITMENT TO THE COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY. An exciting opportunity for a well educated individual with a strong background in the field of communications.

GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR REQUIRES PA/SECRETARY. Board level secretarial responsibility including ability to chauffeur Rolls-Royce. Use of energy for long working hours and confidence to entertain and assist clients...

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT c.£13,000++. We are a friendly, privately owned, one branch agency based in the heart of Mayfair. Due to expansion we are seeking a Recruitment Consultant with agency experience...

AN AVID INTEREST In Office Technology. Can you complement our dynamic team to help us manage our growing organisation? You will have responsible secretarial and organisational skills...

CAREER AS AN INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATOR 25 TO 35 - £10,000. Are you a first class Secretary, ready to take on a greater degree of responsibility? Do you have an excellent command of the English language?

PERSONAL SECRETARY c.£9,000p.a.. The President and Managing Director of an International trading group require a well-educated and experienced secretary with good word-processing skills.

Immediate Start. Floating Audio Secretary (60wpm) required for City company. This is a long term temp booking - could become perm.

WP SUPPORT & TRAINING. Ace Microsystems, producers of the highly successful Word Processing Software, LEX, are looking for two people to join the training and customer support department.

PR DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY. A financial and corporate public relations company - part of a major Fleet Street agency with modern air conditioned offices needs a young bright secretary who will enjoy sharing their enthusiasm and commitment.

IN THE CITY £10,000. A major international investment bank seeks a senior secretary to the Company Secretary. He is the ideal boss who likes to keep his secretary in the picture at all times...

DESIGN & MARKETING £3,000 Neg. A rapidly expanding firm of interior designers seeks a Secretary to a Senior Executive. If you enjoy a creative atmosphere and would like to work in a young informal environment...

EXEC SEC £10,500 INT'L BANK EC2. Your good presentation and desire for responsibility will be a boon to De Sze in their London office. 50% salary contract with Italy and the pleasure of handling your account sh/p and rep. approval. Paris include language skills. Clean, neat, live long and prosper. Age 25-40. Call Fitz Sandes at 283 0111 Love+Tate

Banking Précis Writer with articulate English is required for a large Merchant Bank. Must also have a sound knowledge of German and French - other languages useful. Fast typing and word processing expertise essential. An interesting opportunity to contribute your financial and banking skills.

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Job advertisements for various roles including Receptionist, Graduate Secretary, Audio Secretary, 2 Secretarial Vacancies, Personality, Sec/PA, Potential PA, Croynodon, Secretary/PA Regents Park, Managing Secretary, Internat Fashion Personnel Dir., Young Ambitious, and Public Relations.

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Advertisements for Harpers & Queen, Bloomsbury Health Authority, and PA Secretary.

Advertisements for Tempting Times, La Creme, and Abbott.

Advertisements for Christine Watson Ltd., Invest in the Future, and Estate Agents.

Advertisements for Receptionist, Typist, and other roles.

Advertisements for PA Secretary, Receptionist, and other roles.

Advertisements for PA Secretary, Receptionist, and other roles.

Advertisements for La Creme, Abbott, and other agencies.

Advertisements for Educational Appointments and other roles.

Advertisements for Receptionist, Typist, and other roles.

Advertisements for Receptionist, Typist, and other roles.

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Advertisements for Receptionist, Typist, and other roles.

Advertisements for The Times Classified and other services.

Large advertisement for The Times Classified, featuring contact information and terms of service.

Large advertisement for the Diary of the Times Classified, featuring contact information and terms of service.

Vertical column of small advertisements on the right margin, including notices for schools, businesses, and community events.

Tripods results: languages

MOORE, J. G. Smith, M. J. Smith, M. J. Smith, M. J. Smith... Tripods results: languages... MOORE, J. G. Smith, M. J. Smith, M. J. Smith, M. J. Smith...

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DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS & ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING... I.T. LECTURESHIP AND RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS IN ELECTRONIC MATERIALS AND GUIDED WAVE OPTICS

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Love + Tale... SECRETARY... Please ring Mr Chinn on 087 4766

YOUNG AMBITIOUS SECRETARY... Please ring Mr Chinn on 087 4766

also on page 19... STEPPING STONES... COLLEGE LEAVER... Please ring Mr Chinn on 087 4766

LAPPOINTMENT 6 and 01-837 37

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oxford Gypsy Lane, Headington, Oxford, OX3 0BP... Applications are invited for the full-time post of HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

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EDUCATIONAL COURSES... 01-837 1326 and 01-837 3774

CHIROPYD AS A PROFESSION... The demand for the trained man or woman chiropodist in the private sector is increasing.

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ST CHRISTOPHER'S SCHOOL... L.A.P.S Preparatory School for 155 girls (up to 13 years)

Aston University MANAGEMENT CENTRE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICER... The office of external affairs within the management centre is seeking to recruit an international affairs officer

SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIPS... University of Aberdeen

University of London CHAIR OF CLINICAL NEUROLOGY TENABLE AT THE INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY... The Senate invite applications for the above established Chair

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EDUCATIONAL COURSES... INDEPENDENT COLLEGE... Applications are invited for the post of Postdoctoral Research Assistant

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KING EDWARD'S HOSPITAL FUND FOR LONDON KING'S FUND COLLEGE Appointment of Bursar (College Manager)

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KING EDWARD'S HOSPITAL FUND FOR LONDON KING'S FUND COLLEGE Appointment of Bursar (College Manager)

'Nobel for Geldof' plea after £40m concert

Continued from page 1 lines available to take up to 100,000 calls an hour.

The biggest single boost, however, came in London, where Hamdan al-Maktoum, the British telephone lines had accepted about 150,000 calls altogether.

Mr Zoey Miller, the donations organizer in Philadelphia, said pledges reached more than £4 million by noon yesterday.

The success has brought inevitable speculation about repeating the event annually, although yesterday a shattered Geldof was not commenting on whether he wanted to give up four months every year to organize it.

Many television viewers have not yet had the opportunity to see the concert, even though their national companies bought rights.

Mr Sissel Roenbeck, a member of the Norwegian parliament, yesterday wrote to the Nobel Institute in Oslo nominating Mr Geldof for the peace prize in Dublin.

Much of the rock stars rhetoric focused on the failure of the international political community to provide effective relief, accusations which brought quick defence yesterday.

The Overseas Development Administration in London said that British Government aid to Ethiopia has reached £70 million since 1982, and £95 million to the sub-Saharan area over the past year.

An EEC spokesman said £300 million had been agreed for emergency aid this year.



Rock stars who appeared on the stage at Wembley and on worldwide television to help Africa (Photograph: Brian Arris).

Letter from Hej El-Eja Once, this was a village

There was no particular reason to choose this village. It was one of scores we passed, one of thousands scattered throughout the province of Darfur which occupies many square miles as a country the size of France.

It stood on the crest of a hill. We left the Land-Rover at the bottom and walked through the soft sand towards the little houses of dry-cake grass and the fences of dead thorn which surrounded them.

In the first corral, massive clay grain storage pots, built in situ and baked by the heat of their African sun, lay empty on the sides.

The sand between the compounds was blown into perfectly formed ribs by the Sahelian wind. No footprint had disturbed it for some time.

Then, from over the hill, appeared a bent figure of a woman. Under one arm she carried a massive basket. The village was called Hej

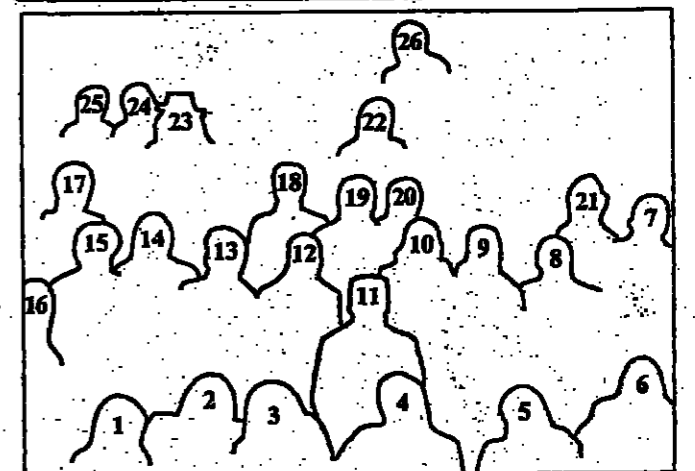
El-Eja. She told the Oxfam nutritionist for whom the village was only one of hundreds of empty places towards the end of a three-month survey of this part of the west of Sudan, where aid workers predict that half a million people will die in the next three months.

Until a few months ago 80 people lived here, she said. But long ago run out of food they had eaten their seed. The wells were dry. Her name was Asha Abu Isak. She had once lived in a nearby village, but now she too was in the camp at Silaya, a town which had only 17 houses but now has 10,000 people squatting on its outskirts.

She had walked for nine hours from the camp to the countryside she knew in search of traditional famine foods. She was receiving grain in Silaya from a German relief group but only one kilo a week, less than a third of what nutritionists maintain is the bare minimum.

She showed us her basket with its sparse layer of brittle desert dates and yellow moka-beh berries which are poisonous but can be eaten if they are soaked for three days. She had to travel this distance because all the moka-beh near the camp had been gathered. Now it was running out here too. The season was almost over.

Paul Vallely



1 Steve Norman (Spandau Ballet); 2 Rick Parfitt (Status Quo); 3 Alan Lancaster (Status Quo); 4 Tony Hadley (Spandau Ballet); 5 Paul Weller (Style Council); 6 Justin Hayward (Moody Blues); 7 Francis Rossi (Status Quo); 8 Andrew Ridgeley (Wham!); 9 George Michael (Wham!); 10 Hazel O'Connor; 11 Elton John; 12 Roger Daltrey (Who!); 13 Nik Kershaw; 14 Nils Lofgren; 15 Kenny Jones (Who!); 16 John Keeble (Spandau Ballet); 17 Gary Kemp (Spandau Ballet); 18 Sting; 19 Adams Ant; 20 Nidge Ure (Ultravox); 21 John Lodge (The Moody Blues); 22 Trevor Jones; 23 Tracey Ullman; 24 David Gilmore (Pink Floyd); 25 Roger Taylor (Queen); 26 Mick Talbot (Style Council).

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

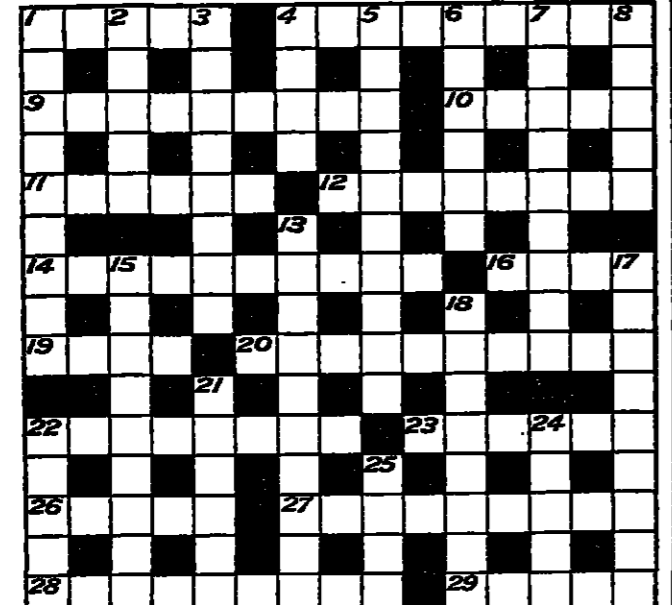
Today's events

Royal engagements Princess Margaret attends gala dinner in aid of Help the Hospices and Leukemia Research Fund at Huntington Club, 7.30.

Princess Alexandra attends evening performance of Royal Tournament, Ears Court, 7.15. Music Concert by choir of Christ Church Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, 8.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,789

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 48 per cent of the competitors at this year's Bristol regional final of the Collins Dictionary Times Crossword Championship.



ACROSS 1 Against sweets being shown as evil things (5). 2 Intriguingly late (9). 3 Third pace maker that's quite inexpensive (4-5). 4 A poem by a nautical man called 'Home' (5). 11 Added about a pound for the spirit (6). 12 Players old? Bound to be (8). 14 Prepare to fire a second fabulous monster (10). 15 Discerning man with fresh colour (4-5). 20 Deck - there are many about an ocean-going vessel (5). DOWN 1 The companion-help (4-5). 2 A disheartening device (5). 3 A foreigner catches up around here in France (8). 4 Some will never ride again - fancy! (4). 5 Sound footwork (3-7). 6 Not entirely honest about mid-morning drink (6). 7 Set against a tall team (9). 8 Better people interrupt a top journalist (5). 13 Connection of capital with pawnbroker (5-5). 15 Opposing a man playing cricket in Advent (9). 17 Finds a record past bearing (9). 18 Not the speediest way to Scotland! (4-4). 21 Cutting the man taking flight (6). 22 Craves soft illumination (5). 24 If one is upset a row can result (5). 25 A boy with nothing inside him as it's early (4).

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 16,788 will appear next Saturday

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 6

Roads

Scotland: M74 (Lanarkshire) between Bowden and Hamilton service area, bridge work, southbound, carriageway, 12.45; M74, Glasgow, 12.45; M74, Glasgow, 12.45; M74, Glasgow, 12.45.

Anniversaries

Births: Isaac Jones, London, 1573; Rembrandt, Leiden, Netherlands, 1639; Henry Edward Manning, cardinal, Archbishop of Westminster 1865-92, Totteridge, Hertfordshire, 1808; Alfred Harmsworth, 1st Viscount Northcliffe, 1925; John Lubbock, general, Washington, 1948; Paul Gallico, novelist, Monte Carlo, 1976.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on Alliance motion on funding of pay awards in NHS, Oil and Pipelines Bill, remaining stages.

The pound

Table with exchange rates for various currencies: Australia 2.08, Canada 1.05, Denmark 1.25, Hong Kong 1.00, etc.

Nature notes

Common terns have large brown-winged young that are just beginning to fly. On a Lea Valley reservoir north of London, about 40 pairs are breeding on rafts made of planks or garage doors floating on polystyrene sheets.

Bond winners

Winning number in the weekly draw for £100,000, £50,000 and £25,000 premium savings bond prices, announced on Saturday are: £100,000: 72N 382683 (winner comes from Berkshire); £50,000: 24TK 206108 (Pwys); £25,000: 8ES 484820 (Cheshire).

Portfolio

Times Portfolio rules are as follows: 1. Times Portfolio is free. Purchase of the Times is not a condition of being listed. 2. Times Portfolio list comprises a group of public companies whose shares are listed on the Stock Exchange.

Weather

A shallow ridge of high pressure will cross the British Isles ahead of an advancing Atlantic depression. Gam to midnight London area, SE, Central, E England, East Anglia, Midlands, Channel islands: mainly dry with sunny intervals; wind, NW backing SW, moderate; max temp 18 to 21C (68 to 70F).

Lighting-up time

Table showing lighting-up times for various locations: London 8.42 pm to 4.52 am, Manchester 8.51 pm to 4.42 am, etc.

Weather

London area, SE, Central, E England, East Anglia, Midlands, Channel islands: mainly dry with sunny intervals; wind, NW backing SW, moderate; max temp 18 to 21C (68 to 70F).

High tides

Table showing high tide times for various locations: London Bridge 4.08, HT 12.50, HT 12.50, etc.

Around Britain

Table showing weather conditions around Britain for various locations: Scarborough 2.4, 4.8, 20.9, etc.

Abroad

Table showing weather conditions abroad for various locations: Adelaide 29.8, 29.8, 29.8, etc.